

Joseph Henry Lerchey

HISTORY

OF

Putnam and Schuyler County

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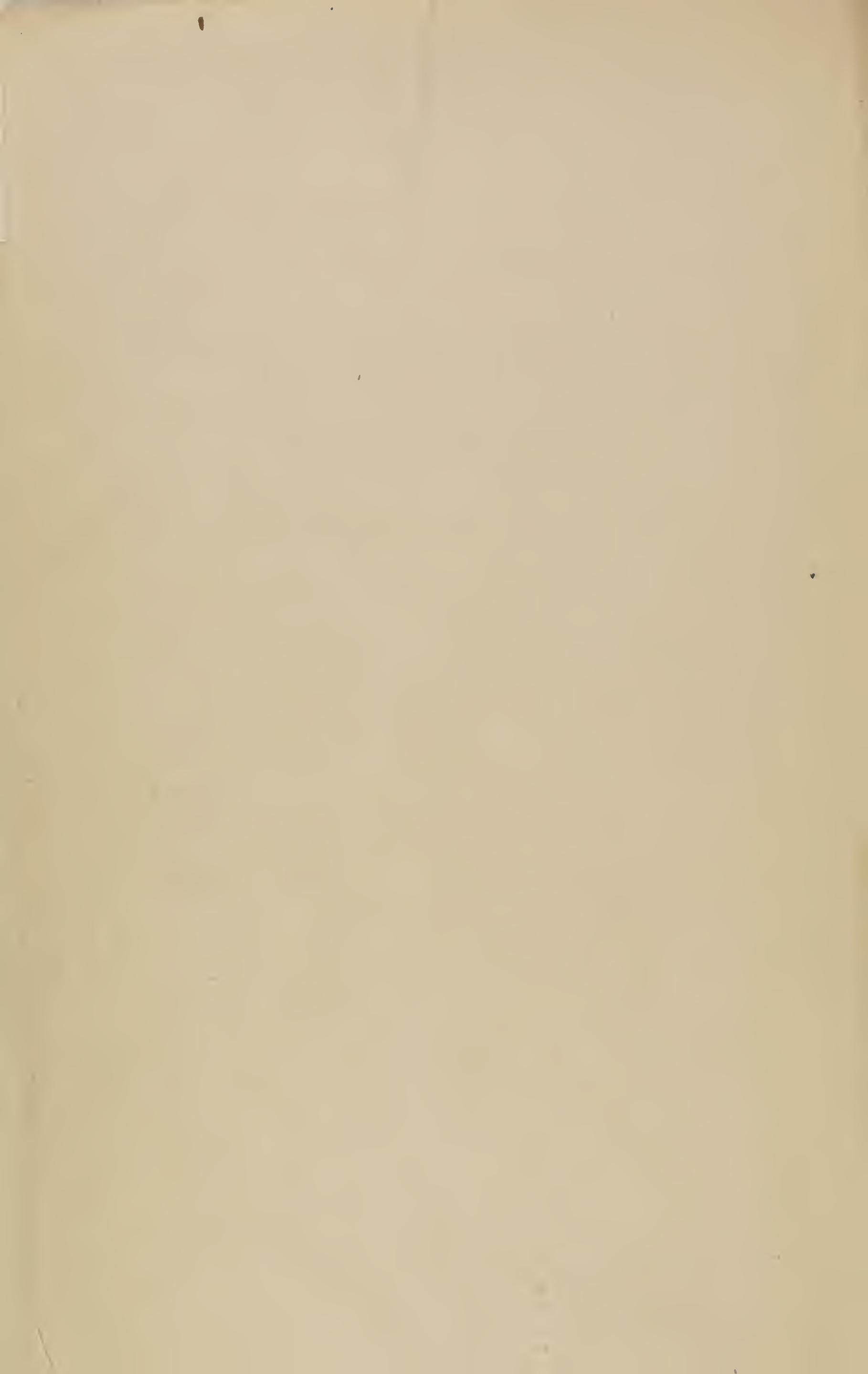
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Joseph Henry Zerbey

HISTORY

of

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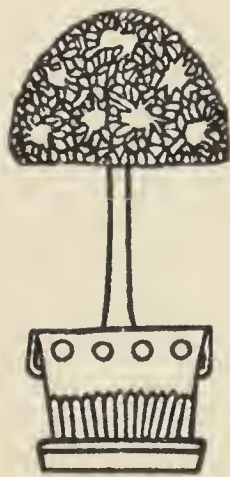
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JOSEPH H. ZERBEY HISTORY
of
Pottsville and Schuylkill County
Pennsylvania

**As Published in Full in "Pottsville Republican" and "Pottsville
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Sch. Haven A Town of Many Industries

(From "Pottsville Republican"-Morning Paper," Sept. 28-Oct. 11, 1934)

The history of Schuylkill Haven was prepared by the students of the Schuylkill Haven High School).

The first settler in Schuylkill Haven was Martin Dreibelbis. He came from Berks County, below the Blue Mountains, before the commencement of the Revolution. It was here he built the first saw-mill and grist mill.

Mr. Dreibelbis was the owner of all the ground which the borough includes. The first residence in the borough was the log house in which he lived, just below the mills and on the opposite side of Main St. He built several houses near the mill and in one of these houses lived until 1799, when he removed to a large house which he built at East Schuylkill Haven, which remained standing for many years. It was built of hewn logs, but it was later covered and painted so that its true character was scarcely suspected at a short distance. He died in this house the same year, at the age of forty-eight. By his will the land where Schuylkill Haven proper is located was left to Jacob, while East Schuylkill Haven was given to another son, Daniel.

About 1811 Jacob Dreibelbis laid out the town of Schuylkill Haven and commenced to sell lots which at first sold at cheap rates and slowly; East Schuylkill Haven, which is now included in the borough, was laid out in 1832. The farm which Daniel Dreibelbis inherited was purchased by Dr. Kugler of Phila-

delphia for \$16,000. Dr. Kugler, in 1832, laid a portion of it out in village lots, and after that, that part was known as Kugler's Addition. (1).

Henry Mertz, Abraham Heber, John Hughes, Andrew Wilaner, Wm. Kiehner, Dr. Samuel Shannon, Michael Frehafer, and John Rudy are remembered as early settlers here; but none of these came earlier than 1817, the year when the construction of the Schuylkill Navigation Canal commenced. (2).

Between 1814 and 1816 Daniel Dreibelbis built a saw-mill and an oil-mill at East Schuylkill Haven. These were taken down by the Schuylkill Navigation Co. between 1825 and 1830. The grist mill and saw mill of Jacob were purchased by this company and were by them razed at about the same time. These were the only mills propelled by water ever erected here. (3).

Rebecca Dreibelbis, born in 1775, daughter of Martin and Catherine, was the first child born here. She died in 1825, having never married. Mary Magdelin Dreibelbis was the second child born here, in 1778. She became the wife of John Reed, and was the mother of Jeremiah Reed from whom this account of early Schuylkill Haven history was received. (4).

The first marriage was that of Mary M. Dreibelbis and John Reed,

in 1795, performed by Reverend Henry Decker. Mrs. Reed died in Ohio in 1841. (5).

As before stated, Martin Dreibelbis died here in 1799 and was buried in ground which he had donated for church, school, and burial purposes. It was located where the Old White Church stood and where the First Reformed Church now stands, just inside the northeastern limits of the borough. (6).

Henry Mertz was the first shoemaker. His first shop, a part of his home, was about one-fourth of a mile northeasterly from the present site of the railroad depot. His shop was afterward on Main Street.

The first tavern was kept by Michael Frehafer, near the present site of the bridge across the Schuylkill. The first store of any consequence was kept by James Levan, just above the Washington Hotel in the same building, later occupied by Daniel Saylor. Edward Huntzinger established a store soon after Mr. Levan. The first resident physician was Dr. Samuel Shannon.

The first school house in the vicinity was on the lot before spoken of as having been donated for church, school, and burial purposes. It was a log building sufficiently large for the religious meetings which were held in it. The instruction was in the German language. John Roeder was the first teacher. He was succeeded by Roland McCurty, whose successor was a German who often amused his scholars by playing the violin for them.

A tannery was established about 1830 by Andrew Wiaur.

Washington Hall, located where Hotel Grand now stands, one of the leading hotels of Schuylkill Haven, was originally built by a Mr. Hughes, probably in 1831. (7).

Schuylkill Haven has been an important point for the shipment of coal ever since the completion of

the West Branch, or Mine Hill Railroad, which has its terminus here. An extensive system of docks came early into existence. (8).

It was said of this place by a correspondent in the Miner's Journal in June, 1830:

"Schuylkill Haven is the name of a town that has been laid out, but, like Swataraville, a view of the plot is scarcely interrupted by a house. Its subsequent growth and prosperity have resulted wholly from its situation as a point of shipment for coal."

The borough of Sch. Haven was incorporated by an act of Assembly, May 23, 1840. The first election under the charter was held on the second Tuesday of that year and resulted in the election of Daniel Saylor, Burgess; John Rudy, Mark Mellon, Jas. M. Saylor, Michel Frehafer and Geo. Rickert, Councilmen. (9).

Characteristics—1775

The people who settled in Schuylkill Haven in the earlier days were mainly Germans. They were tall, sturdy people, big boned, and muscular. They worked outside, therefore had a very ruddy color. They built their own homes and after these were finished, they built their saw mills along the river. Schuylkill Haven also was the home of the first boatmen, since the Schuylkill Canal flowed through the centre of the town.

The people impressed upon their children the sterling qualities that would make them good citizens in later years. They were loyal in battle and always thought of their ancestors and how they had worked to establish a colony. They did not stop at meal time to eat, but worked until their hunger or thirst prompted them to eat or drink.

The men wore russet corduroys and velvet trousers, double-breasted, blue cloth waistcoats with golden buttons, swallow-tailed over-

coats to match, high round linen collars, and high silk hats or high beaver hats. (10).

(Sources from which information was secured: 1—G. I. Bensinger—From Old Residents. 2—Hist. of Sch. Co.—1811-1881, Pages 251-256. 3—Rev. Jefferies—Various Sources. 4—Rev. Jefferies—Various Sources. 5—Rev. Jefferies—Various Sources. 6—Hist. of Sch. Co.—1811-1881, Pages 251-256. 7—G. I. Bensinger—From Old Residents; 8—Hist. of Sch. Co.—1811-1881, Pages 251-256. 9—Hist. of Sch. Co.—1811-1881 Pages 251-256. 10—Hist. of Sch. Haven 1925).

OLD ROADS AND TRAILS

The old roads were used mainly as means of communication with very little pleasure involved. The first roads were doubtless foot paths made by men and animals, and little attention was given to making roads until the invention of the improved wheeled vehicle.

In 1770 an act was passed to build a road from Ellis Hughes saw mill, on the navigable Schuylkill, to Fort Augusta. Instead of starting it at Hughes mill, they plotted it from a point just east of the town and opened it up the valley of the main branch of the Schuylkill. It was only an apology for a road and, during parts of the year, was only used for horse back travel. It gave an added impetus to industry, however.

The Centre Turnpike was begun in 1805 and while not finished until 1812, it was opened for travel in 1808. In October of that year stage coaches began to make regular trips between Reading and Sunbury, on the Old Indian-Shamokin trail as the road was then called. They traveled a week in each direction along what is now Centre Avenue of the Borough.

The opening of the coal fields gave added impetus to travel and by 1830 there were daily lines of stages passing through the town to and from Lebanon and Harrisburg in one direction and to Reading,

Philadelphia, and far away New York in the other direction.

(This information received from "The Call," May 8, 1925).

SCENIC BEAUTY

Schuylkill Haven is surrounded completely by mountains. It is the only place in Pennsylvania where the rolling mountains have the appearance of waves. Standing on top of the Schuylkill Mountain, Sch. Haven appears to be shaped in the form of a horse shoe, with the Schuylkill River meandering calmly through the town.

Many old trails and paths which were used by the Indians are still traveled by nature lovers in their hours of leisure.

REMINISCENCES

All communities experience peculiar and sometimes interesting happenings during the passing years of their history. Schuylkill Haven can claim a number of such because the early history of the town extends back into Indian days.

Fincher Massacre

John Fincher was granted 325 acres of land facing the Schuylkill River, now the West Ward of the borough and part of the South Ward. Fincher built his home and a barn at a point west of the Reading Railway Yards, opposite Broadway. On March 3, 1756, his buildings were burned by the marauding Indians, but Fincher and his family escaped.

Captain Jacob Morgan, who commanded Fort Lebanon, sent a detachment of troops after the Indians, and they followed them to the home of Phillip Culmore, about a mile from the fort, where they found Culmore's wife, daughter, son-in-law, and Martin Fell, killed and scalped; and Fell's wife and two children missing.

Fincher rebuilt his buildings in the early part of September, 1763. One afternoon, eight Indians approached the house. Fincher's family invited them to enter and eat, hoping they had come on a friendly mission. The Indians killed both parents and two sons, and carried off the daughter Rachel, who was returned later by Colonel Bouquet, who defeated the Indians at Kittanning.

A young boy who had been living with the Finchers made his escape and notified Ensign Schaeffer. He and six other men followed the Indians to the home of Nicholas Miller, where four children were found murdered.

Dechert Girl Murdered by Indians

Elizabeth Dechert was murdered by Indians in a spring house along Long Run, located to the west of Schuylkill Haven. The late Samuel Bittle had stated that his grandfather had removed the building and replaced it by a barn, and had found some traces of the girls blood. Sauer's paper, published at Germantown, states that a girl was murdered in a spring house in Berks County in 1757. This is probably the same murder.

Murder at Dietrich Six's

On Nov. 15, 1755, as the watch was going to the Dietrich Six Block House, on the old Shamokin road, about five miles from Pinegrove, it was attacked by Indians; and John Leyenberg, Rudolph Kendel, Geo Wolf, John Appel, Caspar Spring, Jacob Ritzman, Frederick Wieland, and Geo. Martin Bour were killed. Philip House, a shoemaker, was attacked and shot; and Henry Kobles' wife and five children and a daughter of Wm. Stein were murdered the next night at the house of Thomas Brown or Bower on "Swatara Creek". The Indians addressed some of the children in high German, showing that they had

mingled with the German inhabitants of the eastern part of the province.

Baltzer Neyfong Massacre

On March 6, 1756, the plantation of Baltzer Neyfong was attacked by the Indians, and his wife and son were killed.

He went away, remarried, and came back after the Indian trouble had died in 1778, leaving a large family. Ex-Judge Richard H. Koch and John I. Diebert, Esq., of town are lineal descendants of his. On the same day of the Neyfong murder, the murder of Jacob Clauser, north of the Blue Mountains was reported.

Godfrey Boyer Murdered

Godfrey Boyer, the original settler of the tract of land which is now the East Ward was another victim of the Indians. It was said that his body was found quartered and lying on a stump.

Burns and Schlosser

In November 1756, there were two more massacres, that of Adam Burns and his wife and three children, one of which was only four weeks old. The other was the murder of Jacob Steinbrooke. A girl named Catherine Yeager was captured in the house of a man named Schlosser.

Culmor

At the house of Philip Culmor, his wife, a daughter, and his son-in-law, Martin Fell, were murdered and scalped, Fell's wife and three children were taken captive.

It was one of the most brutal murders, the woman being stuck like a pig. The massacre must have occurred near Auburn because it was from this that Scalp Hill got its name. It was later changed to Sculp's Hill.

Gerhart and Reichelderfer

On Feb. 14, 1756 Indians came to the house of Frederick Reichelder-

fer, shot two daughters, set fire to his house, and burned and destroyed all his grain and cattle. Later, they went to the home of Jacob Gerhart where one man, two women, and six children were killed.

(Information from History of Schuylkill Haven, 1925).

SCHUYLKILL CANAL

At an early day in Pennsylvania history, the use of water ways as a means of transportation claimed the attention of the people. It was not until 1815 that the governor was permitted to incorporate a company to make a lock navigation of the Schuylkill River.

The charter limit of the navigation system extended from the north of Mill Creek, above Pottsville, to Lancaster St. Bridge, near Phila. Construction was begun in 1816. The system was a slack-water navigation, being partly pool and partly canal. The original works were designed for small tonnage boats, about twenty tons capacity. The dams were small and cheaply built of wooden crib works. The only traffic expected was lumber and agricultural products. The system was first used throughout in 1825. (1). The first boat used was built at Orwigsburg and hauled to Schuylkill Haven where it was launched. (2). All of the first year was spent in repairing leaks in the parts of the canal that passed over limestone foundations. The completed navigation consisted of 62 miles of canals, 46 miles of pools, 120 locks, and one tunnel constructed near Auburn.

As the anthracite coal trade increased, people began to think that there would not be enough water to fill the locks. Permission to build smaller locks was obtained from the state legislature. During the years from 1833 to 1835 the

depth of the water and size of locks were increased. A slack water navigation was built at Reading to take the place of the leaky canal, caused by its limestone foundation.

The years of the greatest prosperity of the navigation occurred from 1835 to 1841. Passing through a financial depression following 1837, it became necessary to reduce the tolls on coal. This was followed by the necessity of enlarging the works to meet the increasing competition of the Phila. & Reading Railroad, which had just gone into operation. (3). The quantity of coal brought down the canal in 1843 was nine per cent. less than that of the preceding year. In 1845, through the efforts of Solomon Roberts, President of the Schuylkill Navigation Co., the canal was deepened to accommodate two hundred ton burdens. (4).

The works of the navigation were now practically new. Although it was well equipped for trade, it was not in a position to meet the financial difficulties brought about by the suspension of navigation for a year. To overcome these difficulties a loan was negotiated to take care of the company's liabilities and to secure additional cars, boats, and landings. Out of this loan grew the practice of leasing boats to individual captains, who took care of and gradually bought the boats. This method of carrying on transportation was continued until 1870 when the Schuylkill Canal Transportation Line was formed. The gradual increase of trade was suddenly stopped by the floods of 1850. At the re-opening of the line three years later the facilities for shipping coal at Schuylkill Haven were enlarged by the opening of a new dock which was intended to manage the trade from Mine Hill and the Schuylkill Haven Railroad. The maintenance and repairs were placed under Jas. Smith, shipment of

coal and supervision of cars under Edw. Warner, and the boats and tonnage under Philip Thomas. This systematic division of the work led to favorable business results. The coal tonnage of the canal during the season of navigation was greater than that of the railroads until 1867, when the canal transportation began to decrease.

The handling of a large tonnage required the maintenance of coal cars, lateral railroads, and locomotives by the Navigation Company. The cars for the company were built at Reading and the repairs were made at Port Carbon and Schuylkill Haven.

Such active competition led to an agreement between the railroad and navigation companies, which finally resulted in the railroad leasing the canal in 1870. It was operated by the railroad company as lessees until 1886, with its transportation in charge of T. C. Zulich, Superintendent of Canals, at Schuylkill Haven. and Harry Zulich, Assistant Superintendent. (5).

The canal was maintained by the railroad with greater efficiency than before, but nevertheless the trade decreased. The canal was limited to a given area and was slow, while railroads included larger areas and was much better and faster.

(Sources: 1—Pub. of Historical Society of Sch. County, Vol. 2, pages 475-478; 2—Pub. of Historical Society of Sch. County, Vol. 4, page 9; 3—Pub. of Historical Society of Sch. County Vol. 2, pages 425-500; 4—Pub. of Historical Society of Sch. County, Vol. 4, pages 11-17; and 5—Pub. of Historical Society of Sch. County, Vol. 2, pages 430-500).

RAILROADS

Since the middle of the nineteenth century, railroads have been found in all communities of importance. Schuylkill Haven has had the advantages of a few railroads which have played a most important part

in the growth of the town, and they have made possible most of the industries.

The Mine Hill and Sch. Haven R. R.

The Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad Co. was granted a charter approved by Gov. J. Andrew Schultze on March 24, 1828. The Company was organized May 21, 1828. The road was under construction in 1829, and finished in April 1831. It extended from Sch. Haven to the Broad Mountain, a distance of fifteen miles, having five miles of branches. It was the third railroad constructed in the United States. The main purpose of this railroad was to get the coal, which at this time had very little sale, to a more convenient shipping port, in the larger towns and cities. The construction of tracks was very insecure; no ballast was used on the roadbed. The bridges were frequent and consisted of untrusted stringers four or five feet above the water. The railroad track was made of laying cross-ties four feet apart; these ties were notched at the ends, into which an oak rail three by seven inches was placed; on this was spiked a strip of iron about fifteen feet long, and one and a half inches wide by three-eighths of an inch thick. Horses and mules were employed in conveying the cars to and from the mines to the docks at Schuylkill Haven. In the spring of 1842 the wooden rails were removed and iron rails placed in their stead. This was the first railroad in the county put in condition for the passage of the steam cars of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Co. On May 16, 1864, this railroad was leased by the Philadelphia and Reading for a period of 999 years. A great many improvements were made after this company obtained the lease, notable among these was the putting away of the majority of bridges, and ballasting the road-bed.

Sch. Haven and Lehigh River R. R.

In May 1856, a charter was granted by the Legislature of Pennsylvania, approved by Gov. James Pollock, to the Schuylkill Haven and Lehigh River Railroad Co. A survey was made in November 1856. The organization of the company was not completed until Aug. 5, 1859, and was discontinued on April 24, 1860. The interests of the company were purchased by the Philadelphia and Reading Co. The proposed railroad was to connect the Mine Hill and Sch. Haven Railroad, with the Lehigh Valley and the New Jersey Central Railroads, and thus find a better market for their coal. The site of the railroad was in an easterly direction from the Mine Hill and Sch. Haven Railroad. The work on the roadbed was practically finished for a mile or two outside of the borough limits. The embankments of earth in the borough, and the abutments for the bridges over the Schuylkill River and canal are still visible. (1).

The Reading Railroad

The Reading Railroad, which passes through the central part of Sch. Haven from north to south, was chartered by the Legislature of Penna. and approved by Gov. Wolfe, April 4, 1833, under the name of Phila. and Reading Co. Construction of this road bed began in 1842 into Sch. Haven and Pottsville. The railroad was to connect the Mine Hill and Schuylkill Railroad with the Lehigh Valley and New Jersey Central Railroads and was thus to find a better market for their coal. Gradually the trade of the canal was being absorbed by the railroad, thus depriving Sch. Haven of its main source of industry. Many of the town's inhabitants took to railroading as an occupation, and about the time the railroad was opened, it established a car shop for repairing its rolling stock. The railroad

brought added transportation and travel facilities, and Sch. Haven was considered one of the important stations. Every passenger train that has ever been scheduled on the road, with a single exception of the "Cannon Ball Express" during the Centennial Celebration of 1876, has stopped at the town.

The Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Co. built storage yards for surplus coal about one and a half miles southeast of town. Operations on the yards were started in March, 1890, and they were finished in September, 1891. The yards then had a capacity of 300,000 tons. In 1903 the capacity of the yards was increased to 1,000,000 tons. (2).

On July 8, 1901, work was begun on the present depot, and it was completed on March 16, 1902. It is of modern stone construction giving ample facilities to the town.

In 1913 the company decided to replace the worn-out frame freight station with a modern one. In the spring of 1914 a spacious building of brick and steel was opened to take care of the Sch. Haven freight needs. (3).

Pennsylvania Railroad

The Pennsylvania Railroad which passes through the northern part of Schuylkill Haven was incorporated under the laws of Pennsylvania. Work on the construction of the railroad bed in this section was started in the spring of 1885, and it was completed in the summer of 1886. The first train passed through the borough, Nov. 15, 1886, in charge of Conductor Brown. The first station agent was E. S. Frick; the present one is Mr. Fisher. This railroad has greatly aided in the development of Sch. Haven for many of the industries use this railroad. (4).

Lehigh Valley Railroad

The Lehigh Valley Railroad Company was known as the Delaware,

Lehigh, and Susquehanna Railroad Co. Their charter was granted on Sept. 20, 1847. They began construction of a railroad through the northern part of the town, which was known as Nosedale, in 1890. and finished in 1891. This railroad never contributed much to the growth and development of the town since very little business and very few passengers are carried on this branch. (5).

(Sources: (1)—Records of Dr. G. I. Bensinger; (2)—History of Sch. Haven, 1925; (3)—Harry Becker, Contractor; (4)—Records of the Pennsylvania Railroad; (5)—History of Sch. Haven, 1925).

INDUSTRIES

The industries that follow will show the improvements developed during the past years, and the advances made by some of the industries formerly located here. Sch. Haven offers many openings in the various lines of enterprise to the people of the community, and all are glad to take a part. Cooperation and good will have helped greatly toward the advancement of business and the improvements made.

Hoffman and Dohner in 1901, erected a factory on the southwest corner of Wilson and Railroad Sts. On Feb. 5, 1905, the firm dissolved partnership as did also the firm of Schumacher, Keller, and Company. A new firm was organized under the name of the Eureka Knitting Mill Co., composed of Schumacker, Keller, Detweiler, and Hoffman. The machinery of Hoffman and Dohner was moved to the building occupied by Schumacher, Keller, and Company on Charles St. Sept. 11, 1906 it was destroyed by fire and never rebuilt. Immediately after the fire, R. J. Hoffman established himself in a frame building of the old Warner Shoe Co. on Margaretta St. During 1916 a new organization was formed and

incorporated October 1917 as the R. J. Hoffman, Inc. In 1920 a new three story factory was erected on the old site. In July 1932 this factory assumed the name of the Sterling Silk and Glove Co. Under normal conditions the factory employs one hundred and eighty people. The firm has steadily added to its equipment since 1920. This factory is one of the most modern in Sch. Haven today. (1).

Dr. McWilliams founded an underwear business in a building on Hess St., about thirty years ago. Upon going south, he sold the mill to Milton Schwenk and Irvin Lautenbacher. Some time later Mr. Lautenbacher sold his share to Henry Welker. Shortly thereafter W. L. Miller, of Port Carbon, became a partner with Mr. Schwenk and Mr. Welker. The factory was called the Alberta Knitting Mill. The Reider Shoe Co. purchased the plant and conducted a shoe business there for a short time. In January 1931, H. L. Miller repurchased the building. It is now managed by Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Schwartz as an underwear factory. Under normal conditions the factory employs twenty-five people. (2).

In 1900, D. D. Coldren embarked in the manufacturing of ladies underwear with Walter Meck as a partner. Later the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Coldren continued in his own interest. Mr. Coldren continued the underwear mill for fifteen years, and ten years ago began the manufacture of ladies garments or dresses. This business has grown in remarkable proportions. It has brought employment to many throughout the United States as well as Sch. Haven and has increased the business of the post office and the deposits of the local banks. The Coldren Mill mails the garments direct to the wearer in every city and town of

the United States. The average weekly production of this plant is between one thousand and fifteen hundred garments. They have a thousand representatives. There is an office of the Coldren Knitting Mill in every state in the United States. A complete designing department is located in a building separate from the mill. This building is also used as a rest room and for recreation. (3).

The underwear factory of Bashore, Bernd and Company was started in 1923 in the rear of the Bashore home on Dock St. A modern brick factory is now found to the rear of the recently purchased Bashore home on Centre Ave. Until today eighty-five persons find employment there. (4).

Mr. Rudy and Mr. George Zulick launched into the underwear business in what was formerly a planing mill of Rudy Moyer on Lincoln St. In 1928 a new building was erected, the factory being located on the ground floor with an apartment on the second floor. In 1929 the business employed seven persons. In 1934 approximately 25 persons were employed. This firm specializes in the making of rayon underwear. (5).

An underwear factory was started by Emmanuel Baker and Daniel Sharadin, Sr., in 1889, on Union St. to the rear of Parkway. After two years their partnership was dissolved and Daniel Sharadin then took charge. The business was conducted under his management until 1907. At this time, Edw. Sharadin took charge for the estate and continued in charge until 1919 when he bought the business for himself. Additions have been made from time to time to the building as well as to the machinery. At present twenty-five persons are employed. (6).

An underwear factory was started in 1920 by Daniel and Blaine Shara-

din. The partnership was dissolved in 1925. Daniel Sharadin is the sole owner. The mill has doubled in size and business since he has taken it over. His employment lists average thirty-five persons. The building is situated on Union St., to the rear of Parkway. (7).

The Thomas Knitting Mill was established on Railroad St. in 1898. Underwear has always been their specialty. Today their average employment is fifty-five persons. (8).

In 1888 the Bast Knitting Mill was started by Jeremiah F. Bast in a small frame building on N. Berne St. Gradually additions were made to the factory, a bleach and dye plant was added, until it is one of the leading factories in the town. In 1911 Mr. Bast retired and turned the business over to his sons. It was then incorporated under the name of J. F. Bast and Sons, May 11, 1912. Further enlargements were made after this date. At the present time the average employment is ninety people. (9).

In 1892, Mr. Bowen and J. D. Reed erected a mill on Union St. facing the Reading Railroad. In 1899 they moved to the corner of William and Railroad Sts. In 1901 they dissolved partnership and Mr. Reed formed a new partnership with Leininger. In 1901 they added a bleachery. In 1914 Mr. Leininger died. Reed continued in business alone until 1920 when he and his sons organized the Union Knitting Mill which was incorporated July 1, 1921. Mr. Reed died in October, 1921. The business was then put into the hands of his two sons, Ivan and Willis. The officers at present are: Ivan W. Reed, Pres.; H. L. Smith, Vice Pres.; Willis E. Reed, Treas.; Mrs. John Barron, Secy. The approximate employment of the factory in 1934 is one hundred and twenty people. (10).

Walter Meck started business in 1900 with D. D. Coldren. It was called the Meck and Coldren Mill. In 1906 Mr. Meck started business on West Main St. in a two story frame building, together with Harry Reber and Milton Meck. In 1926, Mr. Reber and Milton Meck discontinued in business leaving Walter Meck the sole owner. At present forty persons are employed in the making of cotton underwear. (11).

Emerich's Bakery at 418 Dock St. was built in November, 1921. It employs four men. Two trucks serve retail trade. They serve Sch. Haven, Cressona and two country districts. (12).

The Ehly Bakery was established in 1892 and was founded by George M. Ehly who is the present proprietor. The business was started in the John Motzer property on Parkway, which is now occupied by Greenawalt's department store. Mr. Ehly used this place as a bakery for one year and seven months. He rebuilt on the Heilman property which is located at the present site of the business, 300 Dock St., in 1894. In 1906 this property was dismantled and a new one erected which is now the present bakery (13).

G. H. Michel started a wholesale and retail confectionery and bakery in 1888, specializing in bread and pretzels. In April, 1906 the business was purchased by Joseph and Charles Michel. About this time the firm began manufacturing ice cream. The business was conducted under the same management until 1918. During this year Joseph retired from business and Charles took his nephew, Augustus in the business. The firm conducts an extensive ice cream and candy business through many miles of territory surrounding Sch. Haven. About seventeen persons are employed there. (14).

The Reider Shoe Factory was started on May 15, 1915 in a hall on South Main St. under the ownership of B. Frank Reider and brothers. In 1926 W. C. Kline entered the firm. The value of the products today amount to \$250,000 a year. They employ about seventy-five people. (15).

The Miller Shoe Factory was organized by W. Y. Miller in 1905. The first factory was located to the rear of the Miller home on Liberty St. A brick building was erected in 1913 and an addition made in 1920. The extent of the business is about five hundred to eight hundred shoes per day according to the type made. They employ about eighty people. (16).

A shoe business was started by Mr. Berger and Frank Brown in 1887 at the corner of Parkway and Columbia St. In 1902, G. H. Gerber became the owner. In 1910 the firm organized as "The Walkin Shoe Co." The building was formerly a frame building. About 1918 the entire exterior was changed to brick. This factory is the largest factory in the town. At the present time it is operated by F. B. Keller and Henry Snayberger. The mill employs approximately one hundred and seventy-five persons. (17).

Samuel Roland, native of Stadey-bridge, England, started the bleachery in 1898 to help the local mills so they would not have to send their fabrics to Philadelphia. The industry was located in the building formerly occupied by the hose industry owned by Charles Kline on Market St. Additions were made to the building in 1913. When the industry was first started bleaching was their chief work. In 1898 they added the dying of fabrics to their industry. The industry continued under the management of Mr. Roland until 1926, at which time Melvin Bamford was given the control.

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

The industry employs fifteen men (18).

Kaufman Dairy was started in 1922 by Joseph Kaufman and Harry Feger. In 1923 Mr. Kaufman took over the business in his name. At the time of writing Mr. Kaufman is conducting a business on Naffin Avenue. (19).

The Young Provision Company was started by William Young in 1923. The building is two stories high, frame in structure, and is situated on Margaretta St. He employs nine men and his territory covers a radius of thirty-five miles about Sch. Haven. (20).

The ice plant was originally built by Emanuel Baker and Son, Harry, in 1915. In 1922 it was taken over by Chas. Manbeck. The plant was doubled in size showing an increase from fifty to one hundred tons a day. Electric units have taken the place of steam. In 1933 a new condenser was installed. It now employs twelve men. (21).

George Saul started in business in 1901 at the present location of the Scott Paper Box Factory. He employed about six men. In the course of a few years, business increased so much that he had over one hundred men employed. Mr. Saul went out of business in 1922, selling the business to the Lebanon Paper Box Co. This firm conducted the business until 1929, when on Jan. 1 of that year Roy Scott bought the business. Mr. Scott employs about twenty persons. (22).

The Becker Planing Mill is situated on the west side of the Reading Co. tracks on Columbia St. This mill occupies the site of the Wilauer Tannery. It was established by Meck and Keever in 1902. In May 1921, the business was sold to Wm. Becker who has conducted the business since that time. (23).

A company was organized March

1915, and was known as the Sch. Haven Box and Lumber Co. The officers of this company were: Pres., E. H. Baker; Secy., Frank Brown, Treas., D. D. Coldren. The business continued for a few years until it finally dwindled away. In 1919 the Sch. Haven Casket Co. was organized. They received their charter Nov. 11, 1919. The present building is red brick and situated on Liberty St. At present the factory is working full time with thirty-four persons employed. (24).

The Leonard St. Factory was founded by Clint Snyder and Mrs. C. Geo. Miller in 1922. This was a stocking factory and employed about seventy-five persons. They retired from business in 1927. The building was later purchased by Earl Stoyer and was dismantled. (25).

Sharadin and Baker started business in 1889 but gave up partnership in 1891. The factory was located on Union St., west of Parkway. It is now the Edward Sharadin Factory. Emmanuel Baker built a new factory to the rear of his home on St. John St. in 1892. A prosperous business was conducted until the building was struck by lightning in August 1917. The factory was never rebuilt. (26).

The Berger Factory on Dock St. was started in 1889 by Harrison Berger, Sr., and Elvin Deibert. The first factory building was on the east side of Dock St., where Harry Butz now resides. In 1893 it was moved to the old grist mill on the west side of Dock St. Until 1893 they made only hosiery. At that time they started manufacturing ladies underwear. In 1902 a bleachery was erected, and in 1905 a new grist mill was built. The firm retired from business in 1926. At one time the mill employed 143 persons. (27).

The Davis and Lawrence Box Co. was organized in 1890. It was located on Green St. In February 1919 it was taken over by Wm. Lenge and L. G. Wingert. In September, 1920 it was again reorganized under the supervision of Mr. Brown and Mr. Wingert, but discontinued in 1925. The employees numbered from six to twenty-five. (28).

The Keystone Paper Box Co. started in 1888. Mr. D. D. Coldren began the manufacturing of paper boxes in a small frame building near the southeast corner of Main St. John T. Deibert acquired the business in 1889. In 1902 Davis and Lawrence took over the management. It became the Keystone Paper Box Co. on Feb. 13, 1922. It has since been discontinued. (29).

In 1837 a brickyard was established by W. Huntzinger. Owing to the lack of business, it was discontinued in 1857. (30).

In 1887 a brickyard was established by Harrison Moyer. He continued in business until his death in 1892. (31).

A bone mill was established in 1861 between Canal and Charles St. It was destroyed by fire in 1866. (32).

Schuylkill Foundry Co. was established March 20, 1911. It was located at the site of the present Sch. Haven Casket Factory. They manufactured soil pipe by a new method. The building and contents were completely destroyed by fire in 1914. (33).

In the early development of mining coal in Schuylkill County, it was necessary to provide a means of transportation to market where it could be sold. Wagons proved inadequate for transportation, so a canal was built through the Schuylkill Valley. As the demand for coal increased, it was found advisable to build a railroad through the Schuylkill Valley from Philadelphia to

Reading, which opened for traffic July 16, 1838. When this work was done a car shop was necessary. Accordingly one was built in Schuylkill Haven, which at its height employed five hundred men. The first shop was built by the P. & R. Company and was a building twelve feet square. The first employees were John, Frank, and Phillip Carr. By August, 1878, W. J. Armstrong of Philadelphia removed the old navigation shop and erected a new one for Reading Co. car repairs eighty by forty feet. By July 3, 1899 the shops had been remodeled and enlarged to form a building four hundred feet long and three hundred feet wide. The highest point of efficiency was reached in 1925. Because of the lack of railroad activity, the Sch. Haven Car Shops declined in importance until July, 1931 when the shops were closed and dismantled. (34).

John Marberger's Rolling Mill was established in 1870 by the Direct Iron Company, but it was not a success. In 1872 it was converted into a rolling mill and was enlarged in 1873. Work was discontinued in 1894. It was then sold to the Columbia Iron Works of Columbia, Pennsylvania.

Work was resumed during this year under the management of the new corporation. The chain mill which was a frame structure collapsed during the summer of 1899 and was never rebuilt. In 1900 a busheling furnace was added for the purpose of converting scrap into wrought iron. During the last few years this mill has been sold and resold many times until finally it was sold at sheriff's sale May 9, 1925. The building and machinery has since been removed.

A brickyard was established in 1850 by Mr. Bartlett, on Market St., near the Schuylkill Navigation Canal. He was succeeded by Chas. Kantner, who built the Robinson

homestead on Centre Avenue. He was in turn succeeded by Benj Lindermuth, who was in turn succeeded by Mr. Moyer. The yard was discontinued in 1876.

Mr. Geiger established a pottery opposite the brickyard on Market St. He was succeeded by Henry Weingander. The building was destroyed by fire in 1896 and has never been rebuilt.

While the boating was going on here the principal industry was that of boat building and repairing. Three yards were in operation. The first yard was near the site of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad repair shops, and was owned by Jacob and Morgan Deibert. The second yard was situated on the southern borough limits along the Reading railroad and was owned by Mr. Saylor; later it became the yard of Daniel Warner. The third yard was situated on the northwest corner of Main and Canal Sts. and was owned by Mr. Dengler. After a few years' work he abandoned it. The yard was then taken by Womer and Shadle. Prior to this time Mr. Shadle had been conducting a repairing yard on the site of the buildings on the western side of Dock St., just north of Broadway. After the canal was abandoned in 1888, the yards were closed. No traces of these once flourishing industries can be found.

During the early spring of 1834 a race course with a one-mile track was constructed south of Columbia St., but was discontinued in 1837.

In June 1835, John Rudy opened a lime kiln on the southwest corner of St. Peter and Union Sts. The lime from this kiln was sent to Philadelphia by means of boats on the canal. It was discontinued in 1849.

In 1856, a society for the promotion of agriculture, horticulture and mechanics was organized here, with John J. Paxson, President and J. S.

Keller, Secretary. The association prospered for several years, until finally in 1874 they disbanded. The ground of the association was on the western side of the Schuylkill River, between North Berne St. and the Reading railroad.

In 1837, a brickyard was established by John Hiney on the eastern side of Haven St. about a square north of Main St. Owing to the lack of business it was discontinued in 1857.

In 1889, John Weber began the manufacture of ladies shoes on a small scale in a frame building on Wilson St., east of the Schuylkill Hose Co. building; new machinery was added as the orders increased. Fire destroyed the establishment in 1891. It was never rebuilt.

Keller and Schumacher established an industry in 1894 in the building occupied by Hesser and Kline. In 1897 they formed a partnership with P. C. Detweiler, under the name of Schumacher, Keller and Co.; Detweiler had been operating a mill in the building on Margaretta St., formerly occupied by Francis Warner, shoe manufacturer. When the partnership was declared the machinery was transferred to this building. In 1899 they moved into their own building on the eastern side of Charles St., south of Columbia St.

A. H. Kline started an industry in a building on the corner of Margaretta St. in 1895. The business was discontinued in 1915.

Peter Stanton and Son, opened a factory in 1896 on the eastern side of Haven St., directly north of the high school building. This was discontinued a number of years later.

W. M. Sausser opened a factory in a building on the rear of his premises on High St. in 1897. In 1900, he sold it to Emma Deibert, shortly after which it was closed because of lack of orders.

The Sausser and Kern factory was opened in 1897 on the rear of the Kern property on High St.; owing to lack of help the machines and other equipment were removed to Frackville in 1899 and the building was converted into a dwelling.

In 1830, Andrew Wilaur built a tannery near the site of the present planing mill of Wm. Becker. It was a two story frame structure one hundred feet long. It was destroyed by fire in 1867 and was never rebuilt.

In 1864 a brewery, a two story stone structure, was erected on the southeast corner of St. John and Union Sts. by Mr. Kerkslager. It was destroyed by fire in 1869.

In 1864 a soap factory was established on Garfield Ave. near Centre Turnpike, by Dreibelbis, Robinson and Kantner. It was discontinued in 1875; the building was a two-story frame.

W. L. Dress started a knitting mill in a two-story frame structure, on the rear of his property on William St. on Dec. 10, 1919. It was discontinued in May 1923.

The Textile Mutual and Fire Insurance Co. was organized in December 1906 and chartered under the laws of Pennsylvania May 1907; it was closed to business November 1916.

The Lautenbacher Candy Works were started April 1, 1908, in a one-story frame building on the eastern side of Margaretta St., south of Union St.; it discontinued in business March 15, 1910.

Mail Delivery

The citizens of Sch. Haven and its immediate surroundings were compelled to go to Orwigsburg for their letters and other valuable mail matter, but their newspapers were delivered by the stage coach driver, who made weekly trips through here on his way from Philadelphia to Sunbury. This mode of mail service was continued until 1830,

when Sch. Haven was made a postal station. The stage coach service continued until July 1, 1844, when the U. S. Government gave the contract for carrying the mails to the Phila. and Reading Railroad Co., who have carried it ever since. As a result a post office was established in Sch. Haven.

On Dec. 1, 1905, the first rural free delivery mail service was established taking in portions of North and South Manheim Townships. On the same day the star mail route between Sch. Haven and Pine Grove was discontinued, and a route between Sch. Haven and Friedensburg was established.

Free mail delivery was established here Nov. 15, 1915; with John E. Hoffman, Robert Sausser and Wm. F. Bittle, carriers. (36).

(Sources: 1—Records of R. J. Hoffman, Inc.; 2—Records of Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Schwartz, Factory; 3—Records of Coldren's Knitting Mill; 4—Records of Bashore Underwear Factory, 5—Records of Moyer and Zulich Underwear Factory; 6—Records of Edw. Scharadin Underwear Factory; 7—Records of Daniel Sharadin Underwear Factory; 8—Records of Thomas Knitting Mill; 9—Records of Bast Knitting Mill; 10—Records of Reed's Knitting Mill; 11—Records of Meck's Underwear Factory; 12—Records of Emerich's Bakery; 13—Records of Ehly's Bakery; 14—Records of Michel's Ice Cream and Confectionery Business; 15—Records of Reider's Shoe Factory; 16—Records of Miller's Shoe Factory).

17—Records of Walkin Shoe Co.; 18—Records of The Sch. Haven Bleachery and Dyeing Works; 19—Records of Kaufman's Dairy; 20—Records of Young Provision Co.; 21—Records of Manbeck's Ice Plant; 22—Records of Scott Box Factory; 23—Records of Becker's Planing Mill; 24—Records of Sch. Haven Casket Co.; 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35—History of Sch. Haven—1925; and 36—Records of Dr. G. I. Bensinger).

PRINTING

Printing and newspapers were introduced into Schuylkill Haven during the late 1800's.

In 1874 the Schuylkill Haven Monitor, a weekly journal, was es-

tablished by Colonel Fries. It was printed in an office on the northern side of Main St., east of St. John St. The paper remained neutral in politics. It was discontinued in 1876.

In 1874 a second Monitor was established by Wanden and Bowman. It was printed in an office on the eastern side of Dock St., near Coal St. It was neutral in politics. The publication was discontinued in 1879.

In 1874 the Schuylkill Haven Map, a weekly journal, was established by Messrs. Wunder and Bowman. It was published in a brick building which is still standing on Dock St. It was neutral in politics. Its publication was continued under the same proprietors till 1879 when it was discontinued.

The Herald, another weekly paper, was established in 1880 by Mr. Bobb in the Methodist Church Building on Main St. Later he moved his organization to the building which is now occupied by Bensinger's Drug Store. The publication was discontinued in 1890.

In 1890 Bracefield and Davis established the Schuylkill Haven Call, a weekly newspaper, with an office on the northern side of Main St., east of St. John St. In 1892 Bracefield was succeeded by G. F. Dengler. Later Dengler became sole owner. In 1900 he was succeeded by the Von Neida Brothers. who were succeeded by Jay Schumway in 1902. On Nov. 17, 1910, he sold it to Harry Loy and Floyd Minnig. Mr. Minnig became the sole owner in December, 1916. The office was in the Voute Building until 1924, when it was transferred to a three story brick building on St John St., its present site.

(History of Schuylkill Haven, page 172).

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

As the industries grew the need for some financial institution to

take care of those industries became apparent. This need was satisfied with the gradual organization of such institutions. Each one of these has served the town well and their importance can hardly be expressed.

The Cake and Saylor Bank

By an Act of Assembly approved by Gov. F. R. Shunk, April 14, 1845, the Farmer's Bank of Sch. Haven was incorporated. They began business in May 1847 in the Voute building northeast corner of Main and Dock Sts. Owing to the lack of business in this field, it was removed to Pottsville in 1851. It closed its doors in 1857. It was familiarly known as the Cake and Saylor Bank. (1).

The First National Bank

The First National Bank was chartered on Aug. 28, 1899; it was organized on June 23, 1899 and opened for business on Tuesday, Sept. 5, 1899, in the brick building between the P. T. Hoy property and the Trust Company. The officers were: E. H. Baker, Pres.; C. C. Leader, Vice Pres.; F. B. Kellar, Cashier; Joseph Mellon, Clerk.

The directors were: I. B. Heim, Frank Brown, J. F. Bast, R. G. Kline, F. A. Springer, D. D. Yoder.

On July 1, 1903, the directors bought the property on the northwest corner of Main and St. John Sts. and work was started on the erection of the new building on April 18, 1904 which was ready for business Dec. 1, 1904.

Business was conducted and rapidly grew until the present bank was opened for inspection on Oct. 12, 1929.

The present officers are: F. B. Kellar, Pres.; D. D. Coldren, First Vice Pres.; H. B. Felix, Second Vice Pres.; C. E. Berger, Solicitor; Roy Williams, Cashier.

The present total resources are \$3,250,000 of which \$125,000 represents capital, \$375,000 surplus, \$36,000 undivided profits, and \$2,563,215 deposits. (2).

Trust Company

The Sch. Haven Trust Co. was chartered May 19, 1910, and it was opened for business June 6, 1910.

The first officers were: John Berger, Pres.; Dr. Daniel Dechert, Vice Pres.; Samuel Rowland, Second Vice Pres.; H. C. Wilson, Secy.; J. L. Stauffer, Solicitor.

On the opening day the deposits were \$76,307 and total resources \$202,823.10. The capital stock was \$125,000.

The present day officers are: E. L. Thomas, Pres.; Walter Meck, Vice Pres.; H. C. Wilson, Secy.; Chas. Williams, Treas.; J. L. Stauffer, Solicitor.

The total resources at the present time are \$2,350,145.38. (3).

State Bank

The State Bank was organized July 24, 1923 and opened for business Dec. 15, 1923.

The directors were: J. M. Gipe, G. A. Berger, H. W. Stager, G. W. Wolfe, John Reichert, G. M. Paxson, Clinton Reber, Samuel Bast, Joseph Roeder, John Ebling, A. M. High.

The first officers were: J. M. Gipe, Pres.; G. A. Berger, Vice Pres.; A. M. High, Second Vice Pres.; H. W. Stager, Secy.; W. A. Jones, Cashier.

The deposits the first day were \$37,689.86. On July 5, 1932, the State Bank merged with the First National Bank and the Schuylkill Haven Trust Company. (4).

Citizens Building and Loan

Citizen's Building and Loan Association was chartered June 1, 1911, to exist for forty years. The present officers are: Dr. James Lessig, Pres.; Earl Sherer, Vice Pres.; Chas. Michel, Treas.; Wm. Bittle, Secy.;

George Paxson, Solicitor. The assets of the organization Dec. 31, 1932, amounted to \$286,718.54. (5).

Schuylkill Building and Loan

The Schuylkill Building and Loan Association was chartered Feb. 19, 1883.

The officers were: D. H. Stager, Pres.; L. R. Haneman, Vice Pres.; M. F. Pflueger, Secy.

The present officers are: W. Y. Miller, Pres.; D. Deibert, Vice Pres.; G. I. Bensinger, Treas.; R. L. Painter, Secy.; J. L. Stauffer, Solicitor.

The assets on May 1, 1932, amounted to \$304,754.15. (6).

(Sources: 1—Records of Dr. G. I. Bensinger; 2—Records of First National Bank and Trust Co.; 3—Records of Sch. Haven Trust Co.; 4—Records of State Bank; 5—Records of Citizens Building and Loan Asso.; 6—Records of Schuylkill Building & Loan Asso.

CHURCHES

Churches are buildings for public Christian Worship. In the minds of our people religion always has taken a foremost part for religion is the recognition of Man's relation to a divine or supernatural power to whom obedience and honor are due.

First Reformed Church

The title to the tract on which the First Reformed Church stands was secured by Jacob Krebs, a trustee, from Mrs. Edw. W. Haskins for the sum of "one silver dollar," about the year 1820. The White Church, as it is more commonly known, antedates the oldest churches of Pottsville by six or seven years. The first service was held by Rev. Frederick C. Kroll, who came here in 1822. In 1827 the congregation had grown so much that it became necessary to build a second building which is still in use. With a membership of four hundred and fifty the church is progressing excellently under the supervision of their pastor, Rev. John L. Herbster.

The interior of the church was renovated and cleaned in 1932. A set of Deagon A. Pipe Organ Chimes were presented to the church as a memorial to Elder Emerich. (1).

Grace Evangelical Congregation

In 1830, Rev. J. M. Saylor and brother, Daniel organized the St. Peter's Church of the Evangelical Association. The first trustee meeting was held in 1835, at which time they planned a house of worship. In 1836, the church was dedicated. The church was located at the site of the present Refowich Theatre on St. Peter St. A larger edifice was erected on the same ground in 1857. In 1894, by decision of court, this property was transferred to the Trinity Evangelical Church. When St. Peter's was given by court to the Trinity Church the members of the St. Peter's Church had held services in Metamora Hall and adopted the name of "Grace United Evangelical Congregation." They purchased a plot of ground on the northeast corner of St. Peter and Union Sts. on April 18, 1895.

Work was begun on the new edifice at once. It was a two-story brick building and the corner stone was laid, June 23, 1895, and it was dedicated on Dec. 21, 1895. The first pastor was Rev. A. H. Snyder. In 1917 extensive changes were made to the interior of the church. In 1922 a pipe organ was installed to the memory of J. D. Reed. At present the congregation comprises about three hundred and fifty members, and their pastor is Reverend A. G. Flexer. Under Rev. Flexer's pastorate, there was improvements made on the organ and the choir loft which add greatly to the appearance of the interior of the church. (2).

Protestant Episcopal

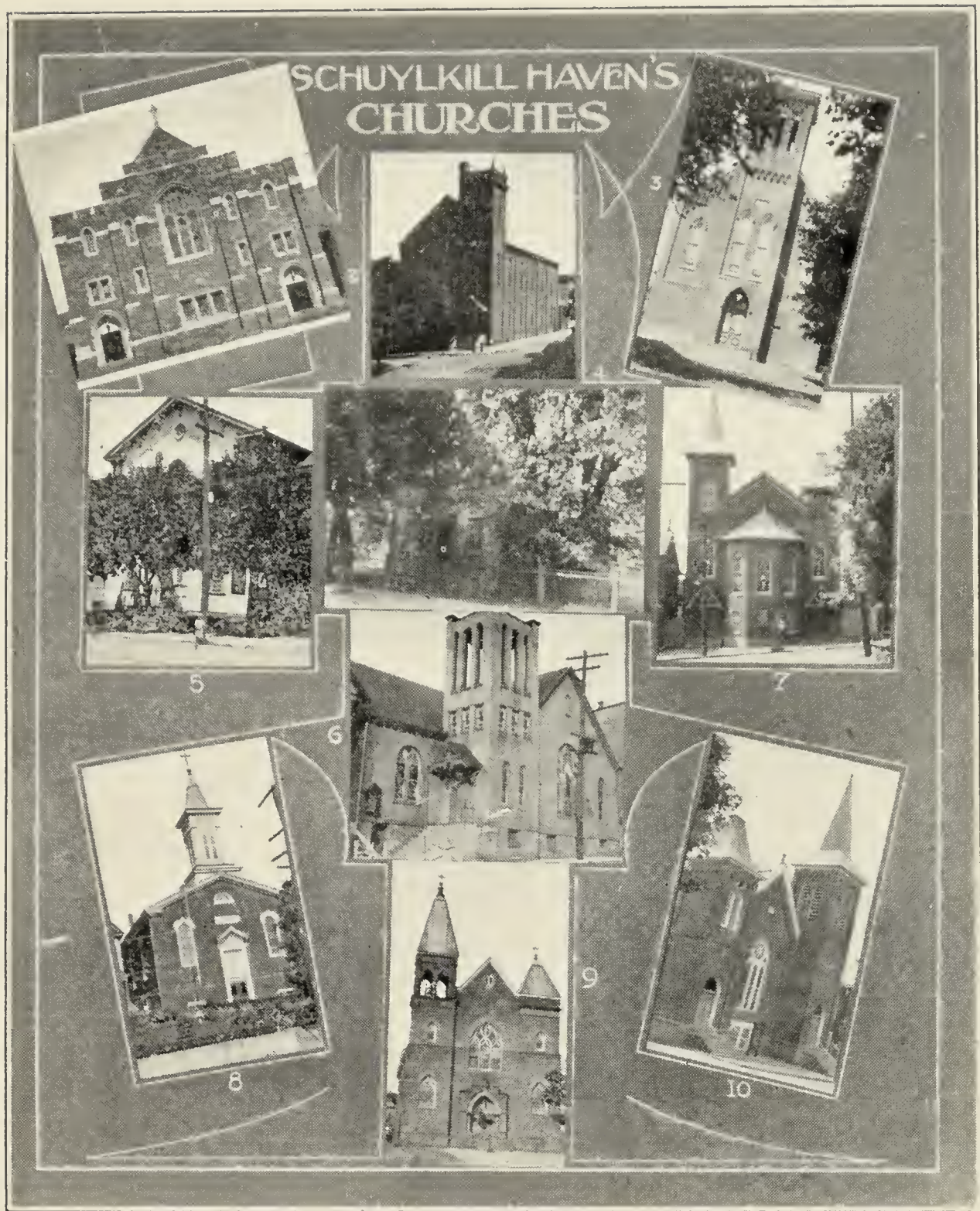
On May 1, 1839, in compliance with the previous call of a number

of persons favorable to the organization of a society according to the forms and usages of the Protestant Episcopal Church, a group of people met at the brick school house on Union St. A motion was adopted to secure a charter from the Supreme Court under the title of St. James Church. Rev. S. Buel was rector at this time. It was agreed that the cornerstone be laid Aug. 31, 1839; services were held by Rev. Miller of Pottsville, and Rev. Drake of Bloomsburg. The church was consecrated on Whitsunday of 1841. At present the church has thirty-five members in its congregation. Under the pastorate of the present pastor Rev. J. R. Ramsay, many improvements have been accomplished; the inside of the church was papered and many new electrical fixtures were added. The outstanding achievement is the altar with its many celestial supplements. An extensive heating system adds much to the comfort of each member. (3).

Messiah United Brethren

The first United Brethren Church which was located at St. John and Market Sts. was built in 1847. In 1860, a lot was purchased on Main St. and on April 1, 1861 the present building was dedicated. In August 1899, it was decided to remodel the church and in December 1899 reopening services were held by Dr. I. H. Albright.

The first rector was Rev. Amos Graub in 1883; the parsonage was purchased and stood thirty feet from the church. The present parsonage was erected in 1908 when Rev. R. R. Butterwisch was pastor. The present pastor is Rev. C. A. Snavely. Under his pastorate several improvements have been made including a new pipe organ which was installed on Easter Sunday in 1927. Repairs were also made in the Senior Sunday School room. The membership is approximately three hundred and five members. (4)



Washington Hall—Located on Site of Hotel Grand



Picture No. 1
The Present Almshouse Hospital

Picture No. 2
Almshouse and Insane Asylum

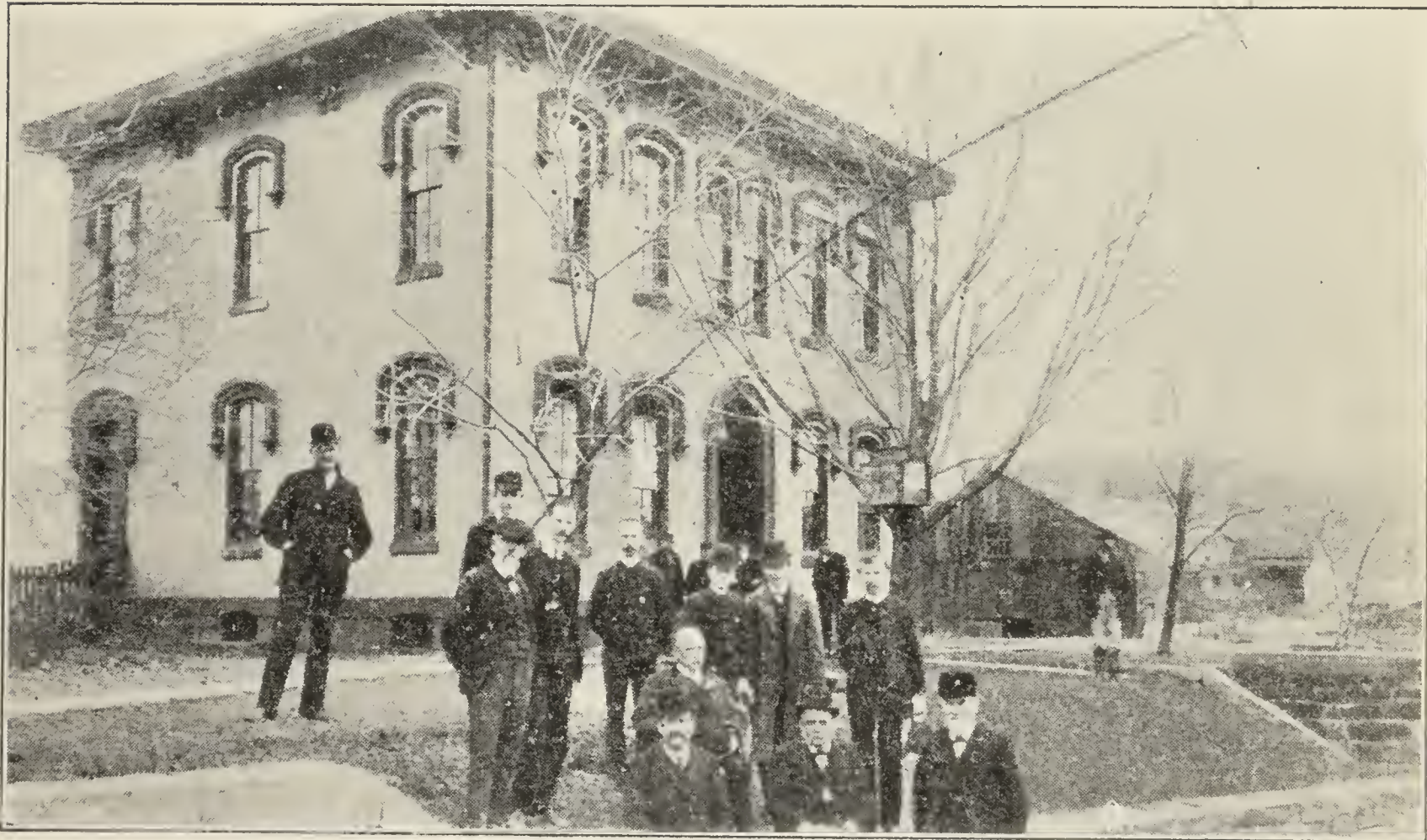
Picture No. 3
The First House in the Borough

Picture No. 4
**The Town Hall, Accepted by
Council in 1916**





Schuylkill Haven Parkway—A Memorial Park



Schuylkill Navigation Company, T. C. Zulick, Superintendent



Schuylkill Haven Locks and Canal Scenes

St. Matthew's Lutheran

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church was formed in 1857 with Rev. Steck as pastor. Its members had previously belonged to St. Paul's and before St. Paul's to the old White Church. The first church was dedicated in January 1860; however, the congregation had previously belonged to St. Paul's Church which is at present St. Ambrose Catholic Church. The parsonage was constructed during the pastorate of Rev. Singmaster who came in 1876. Rev. Singmaster later became president of Gettysburg College. In 1886, the present church, a two-story brick structure was erected by Rev. Croll. During Rev. Sutcliff's pastorate the church was repainted inside and modern pews were installed in place of the old seats. During Rev. Wolfe's pastorate, the present pastor of this church, new lights and windows were installed in the church, and the Sunday School room has been improved in several ways. The membership of the church is about four hundred and thirty. (5).

St. Ambrose

The church now used by St. Ambrose Parish was built by the Lutheran Congregation in 1851. In 1865, the church was bought from the Lutherans and has served the parish up to the present day. The deal was negotiated by Senator Randall. The first pastor was the Rev. Phillip McEnroe. In 1914 under the pastorate of the Rev. Vincent Dever, a parochial school was started and the convent was built. Superior of the convent was Mother Lenora. At the present the Rev. Wm. Drobelt is pastor of the church. Under his pastorate the church was cleaned and many additions were made. The church includes eight hundred people in its congregation. (6).

St. John's Reformed

In 1861, some families organized an English Reformed Congregation. Rev. David Wolfe was the first pastor. Their first meeting was at the site of F. W. Keller's home. They then bought the Methodist Episcopal Church on East Main St. in September 1862. During the pastorate of Rev. John P. Stein, a parsonage was purchased from Elijah Reed. During Rev. Johnson's pastorate in 1871 a new parsonage was purchased and a new church was built on Main St. The dedication took place on March 26, 1876. Tentative plans for a new building had been adopted Feb. 22, 1925, and on Feb. 19, 1926 they decided that the name should be the Strunck Memorial Hall. The first actual use of the building was on Feb. 9, 1927 when a supper was served to the Haven Club.

The church is the largest in Sch. Haven and is constructed of stone. It cost approximately \$123,000 and has a seating capacity of eight hundred.

The present pastor of the church is Rev. E. S. Noll. There have been no improvements made to the Strunck Memorial Hall up until this time, as the building is modern.

The Church is proud of its membership of 820 persons. (7).

Trinity Church

The Trinity Church of the Evangelical Association was organized March 15, 1873. Its members had withdrawn from St. Peter's Church for the purpose of establishing a church in which the services would be conducted in English. The first meeting was held in Metamora Hall on Main St. In May 1874 the edifice which is located on the eastern side of Dock St., one block north of Main St. was dedicated. In 1926, under the pastorate of Rev. Charles Kachel, the church was renovated throughout the interior. At this

time a pipe organ was donated by Samuel Rowland. The first pastor was Rev. James Bowman. The present pastor is Rev. P. W. Brown. The membership today numbers 150 people. (8).

Methodist Episcopal

This church was organized about 1901. The first members were dissenters of St. Peter's Evangelical Church. At first the prayer meetings were held in individual homes. In the meantime the first minister came. He was Rev. T. Isenberger. Under his leadership a new church was built. The lot was bought from Jeremiah Bast for \$600 and the building cost \$8,000.

In Rev. Barton's time the rear of the church was enlarged. While Rev. Smith was here the chimes were added to the organ. Under the present pastorate improvements have been made on the church and parsonage. The present pastor is Rev. Thos. R. Jeffery. Under his pastorate several improvements have been made. A large platform was built in the church, and the interior has been renovated. The exterior of the church and the parsonage have been painted which has added greatly to their appearance.

The present membership of this church is 230 persons. (9).

Christ Lutheran

The German citizens of Schuylkill Haven worshipped with the Reformed congregation in the First Reformed Church or the "White Church" as it is more commonly known until 1905 when they broke away.

On April 12, 1905, the Christ Lutheran Church congregation purchased the ground on the east side of Dock St. which is the site of their present church building. The building was staked off May 18, ground was broken by Rev. E. H. Smoll, May 22, and the cornerstone was laid Aug. 27. Aug. 26, 1906, the

edifice, which is a two-story sandstone structure was dedicated.

Rev. E. H. Smoll the first pastor is faithfully serving this congregation. Under his pastorate improvements have been made in the infant department, and plans are being made to build an annex to the Infant Sunday School Room. This church is proud of its membership of 700 persons. (10).

(References—taken from the records of the various churches: 1—Records of the First Reformed Church; 2—Records of the Grace Evangelical Congregational Church; 3—Records of the Protestant Episcopal Church; 4—Records of the Messiah United Brethren Church; 5—Records of the St. Matthew's Lutheran Church; 6—Records of the St. Ambrose Catholic Church; 7—Records of the St. John's Reformed Church; 8—Records of the Trinity Evangelical Church; 9—Records of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and 10—Records of the Christ Lutheran Church).

EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

Schuylkill Haven has an excellent educational system dating back to the year 1806. On the northeastern outskirts of this borough, a log building was erected for religious and educational purposes. This building was erected in 1806. All the books were printed in German, English not being taught. Education and religion were synonymous in those days.

The next school erected was a one-story log structure on St. John St. In 1836, this school was replaced by a brick building located on High St. Instead of the money being raised by taxation, the pupils all had to pay tuition.

Schuylkill Haven adopted the state public school system in 1838. The free text book system, however, was not adopted until later. The teacher in those days received the sum of twelve dollars for a term of eleven weeks, with five and a half days teaching each week.

The salaries of the secretary and treasurer of the school district in 1867 were \$50 each for the school year. There were twelve directors, the school term was nine months and the tax rate was ten mills. The principal's salary was \$80 a month. The janitor received \$10 a month.

In 1874 a Boatman's school was opened. The teacher for this school received \$50 a month.

In 1859 a three-story building having eight rooms was erected at a cost of \$13,000, in place of the small brick building on High St. In 1878 this building was remodeled at a cost of \$2,495.

The next school was a one-story frame building erected at the cost of \$1400. It was completed in 1874.

In 1900 a one and a half story brick building was built on Canal St. now Parkway. This was remodeled a few years later into a four-room building. In 1931 four more rooms were added, making a total of eight rooms in this building.

In September, 1917 the present high school building was used for the first time. It contains twenty class rooms, a gymnasium, a large storage room, an auditorium with a seating capacity of six hundred, in addition to rest rooms and laboratories. It was built at the approximate cost of \$75,000. During the summer of 1930 many changes were made to this building. Three rooms were created out of the study hall creating greater class-room space. Other changes were also made.

Jan. 1, 1934 the enrollment for the schools of the district was 1413; elementary, grades 1 to 8, inclusive, 963; High School, 450. The enrollment in 1887 was 653 of whom 44 were in the High School.

In 1931, the present East Ward building was opened, at a cost of \$82,000. It is a spacious brick building of eleven rooms and a library.

There are forty-four members in

the faculty of the Sch. Haven Schools. Three members of the high school faculty have Masters Degrees. All others have their Bachelors Degrees as well as many members of the Junior High Faculty. This is an excellent record which adds much prestige to the school.

At present all the schools in Sch. Haven are in excellent condition. The enrollment is very large and the standing of the schools scholastically is highly commendable.

One of the outstanding organizations connected with the schools of Sch. Haven is the Parent Teachers Association. Organized Feb. 6, 1923 with thirty-three members, it has grown, until it is the largest association in the state with a membership Jan. 1, 1934 of twelve hundred persons. The first president was Mrs. Geo. Butz. Under her leadership the School Band was organized and has been sponsored by the Association.

The Parent Teachers Association has been instrumental in bringing about a closer relation between the home and the school, uniting parent power and teacher power. Many worthwhile things have been accomplished by means of this cooperation.

Parochial Schools

In 1858 the first Parochial School was started on a small scale in the basement of St. Ambrose Church.

In 1928 it was decided to enlarge the school facilities so a new building was erected to the rear of the church at a cost of \$48,000. It comprises six rooms and a spacious hall on the second floor. The attendance of the school at present is 180 pupils.

(Sources: History of Schuylkill Haven, 1925; Records of the Schuylkill Haven Schools; "The Call", May 1931; Mrs. George Butz, through records of the P. T. A.; Records of the Parochial Schools).

THE MILITARY HISTORY

The only two men who served in the Revolutionary War from Sch. Haven were John Reed and Martin Dreibelbis. The country was sparsely settled at this time and a story is told of the Red Coats having camped on the hill where Guldin's Dairy is now located.

A fort was maintained on the road between Auburn and Deer Lake. When danger occurred, everyone went to this fort. (1).

Mexican War

Nov. 1, 1846, the governor issued a call for volunteers. Sch. Haven responded to the call with the Washington Artillery Company F. of Pottsville.

Only one man of this town enlisted. This was Wm. Knockhouse, age 22 years. (2).

Civil War

About 1857, a company was formed known as the Scott Artillerists under the leadership of Chas. S. Leader.

The Scott Artillerists armory was on the second floor of a building which stood against the west abutment of the railroad bridge where the coal yard now is. Meetings and drills were held, and it was in this armory that the units which went from here into the rebellion were formed and drilled.

When the capture of Fort Sumpter became known, the people flocked together and were excited and angry.

The Scott Artillerists became the center of interest. It was the nucleus about which a company was to be raised in answer to the call for 75,000 volunteers.

This town had a very good representation. During the first three months of enlistment, Company F of the Fifth Regiment was formed.

At this stage of the war, the men that enlisted were released and Company C in the 50th Regiment

was formed. Jerry Helms, a lad of about fifteen or sixteen, had enlisted and was made drummer boy. The Grand Army of the Republic Post was named after this man. (4-5).

Spanish-American War

In April, 1898, Gov. D. H. Hastings issued a call for volunteers from this state to join the United States Forces.

There were fourteen men of the town mustered. They served in Porto Rico and were honorably discharged Sept. 28. 1898.

Only one son of Sch. Haven lost his life in this war, that being Samuel Spindler, who died from illness in the hospital at Fort Monroe. Virginia. (3).

The World War

In April, 1917, the United States entered the World War and a call again was made for men.

Schuylkill Haven patriotically responded to the call for men. Through previous enlistment with the National Guard, by volunteering or because of the draft, three hundred and eighty-seven Sch. Haven men saw service in the war. Of this number, eight men were either captured or died of wounds.

The Robert Baker Post of the American Legion was the Sch. Haven Organization formed by the World War service men. The post was named after Robert Baker, the first Sch. Haven man to die in the National service during the war. (5).

Eight women of our town served in the Red Cross.

Following is the list of persons who served in the war: Alfred Brown, Melvin Bamford, Pierson A. Beck, Wm. Brown, Arthur Bashore, Harry E. Boyer, Ralph E. Bast, Harrison Berger, Ralph Bowman, Albert R. Collier, Paul J. Clauser, Elmer Confer, Robert Christ, Lester Crossley, Robert Deck, Chas. Diebler, John J. Dalton, Samuel Diebert, Willis Diebert, Daniel Deckert,

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

Guy Frehafer, Elmer W. Fullerton, James Foley, Leon Goas, Isaac De-
wald, Leroy Edling, Carl Gehrig.
Earl Graver, Herbert Gaschwindt.
Edw. G. Gangloff, Austin Hoffman,
John Hoffman, John A. Hill, Ches-
ter Hartzler, Chas. Hill, Rudy Hoy,
Daniel Kaufman, Geo. D. Kellar,
Clarence Knarr, Robert C. Kramer,
John Ketner, Lewis Kendrick, John
O. Lessig, Geo. McCord, Robert C.
Brown, Chas. E. Spindler, Harry
Fenstermacher, Clarence Graeff,
Raymond Hummel, Herman E. Ker-
schner, Milford G. Klahr, Monroe
E. Mease, Wm. E. Mill, Jr., Jas. Mel-
lor, John P. Moyer, John C. Noeck-
er, Daniel A. Smith, Thomas Con-
ley, Phillip Emerich, Kimber Fen-
stermacher, Leroy Fisher, John
Foorman, Ralph Fahl, John Frehaf-
er, Chas. Fenstermacher, Luther
Fullerton, Ralph J. Fisher, Harry J.
Feger, Lester J. Gilham, Emmert R.
Greenawald, Jas. V. Hartnett, Geo
Hartnett, Warren Hill, John Herb-
ster, Paul M. Hartzler, Chas. Har-
rin, Wm. L. Huy, John Robert
Jones, Jonathan Kramer, Jos. S.
Kauffman, Raymond Kock, Harry
Koenig, Samuel H. Knarr, Allen
Knarr, Joseph Kantner, Russell
Kantner, Russell L. Schwenk, Simon
E. Mengle, Harold Lenker, E. Becker,
Hobart H. Becker, Elmer E.
Hartranft, Roy Ketner, John P. Mc-
Connell, Raymond R. Sterner, Paul
H. Baker, Eugene F. Carr, Wm. J.
Christ, Hugh N. Coxe, John E. De-
wald, Carl C. Feger, Chas. A. Graeff.
Chas. M. Goas, Eugene Hultzer,
Clarence L. Kerschner, Raymond S.
Mill, Leon M. Sterner, John F.
Starr, Isaac C. Wagner, John A.
Knarr, Clayton E. Koenig, Charles
A. Rodgers, Wm. W. Seiwell, Chas.
D. Bitzer, John O. Edling, Leo Kra-
mer, Lester S. Bast, Daniel L. Bol-
ton, Ray Bressler, George B. Brown,
Fred K. Burket, Isaac W. Burket.
Warren E. Burket, John A. Harner,
Wm. G. Hyde, Harry M. Keller,
Geo. C. Kramer, Emanuel N. Knarr.

Harry E. Moyer, Harry E. Reber,
John W. Reber, Lester J. Reber,
Herbert C. Reed, Paul R. Seidel,
Preston A. Seiwell, Elmer E. Stein-
brunn, Albert W. Straub, John W.
Webber, Clarence S. Womer, Percy
E. Bubeck, Harry E. Christ, Harry
S. Butz, Kimber C. Confer, Wilmer
E. Crossley, Earl F. Fatkins, Frank
Koch, Allen Koch, Nathan J. Lessig.
Geo. D. Linderemuth, Francis Lin-
deremuth, Ivan C. Lautenbaucher,
Warren M. Lesser, Earl Matthews,
Charles McCormich, Raymond J.
McGovern, Leo McKeone, Daniel
Mulholland, Harvey Moser, Floyd
Mattern, Jos. McCormick, Foster
Reber, Ralph Runkle, Elmer L. Re-
ber, Raymond Runkle, Irwin Say-
lor, Abraham Schwartz, Earl W.
Schappel, Raymond Schaeffer, Ar-
thur Sterner, Jas. F. Sullivan, Chas.
Saylor, Robert F. Strauch, Harry E.
Sauers, Chas. Sauers, Lewis A.
Sweigert, Harry Steinbrunn, Her-
man Schwenk, Raymond Shappel,
Chas. Seitzinger, Moses C. Thomp-
son, Frank Wildermuth, Geo. Wit-
man, Wm. J. Webber, Harry Weis-
er, Edw. Wessner, Samuel Yeich,
George Yoder, Irwin Achmoody,
Milton B. Achenbach, George Ach-
enbach, Chas. Auchey, John P. Ster-
ner, Phillip J. Sterner, Rosser B.
Thomas, Earl G. Wagner, Howard
Wertz, Edw. Zimmerman, Herman
Anderson, Harvey Alspach, Theo.
Auchey, Allen Bubeck, Lester Beck,
William H. Boyer, Harry Burkert,
Merwin Buffington, Samuel P. Bol-
ton, Chas. Brownmiller, Bright Butz,
Howard Christ, Fred Minnick, Earl
J. Miller, Geo. McKeone, Esmond
G. Moyer, Ellwood Messer, Edw.
O'Brien, George J. Pieffer, Harry
Quinter, Fred C. Reichert, Chas.
Ribkee, Homer Raudenbush, John
Raudenbush, Wm. H. Reed, Lincoln
Reber, Bright Reber, Fred B. Reed,
Hugh T. Ryan, Edw. Reider, Geo
Reider, Russell Reider, Earl Roe-
der, Geo. Spratford, Adam Swartz,
George Saylor, Wm. Sattizahn, Lu-

ther Shappel, Millard Saul, Edw. Straub, Carl Shoener, Edward Schwenk, Hugh Sharon, Ralph Satzahn, Howard Seitzinger, Charles Shadler, John Thompson, James Thompson, Lynn Ulsh, Wm. Wildermuth, Wm. Wissner, Harry Williams, Lester Wolfe, Walter Yost, Rufus Yoder, Carl Fey, Geo. W. Thompson, Edwin Webber, Edw. Roeder, Henry Bowman, Wm. Berger, Jos. Fleming, Rudus Kerschner, Raymond Kerschner, Robert L. Bitzer, Harry Dress, Philip Frehaffer, Elmer S. Ketner, Clarence W. Keiber, Chas. Kaufman, Henry W. Krause, Nathan Kerschner, Clifford Moyer, Herman H. Reed, Rufus Roeder, John G. Sauers, Jas. W. Weston, Benj. Yeick.

U. S. Navy: Roy Erb, Charles Gehrig, Herman Huling, Horace Kerschner, Cyrus Kipp, George Moser, Samuel Shappell, and Harry C. Wessner.

American Red Cross: Ruth Burkert, Mollie Detweiler, Sarah Flammer, Margaret Thompson, Mary Palsgrove, Sarah Burkert, Edna A. Fisher, and Edna I. Confehr.

Death Roll: Robert E. Baker, Ivan L. Lautenbacher, Isaac Burkert, John Bolton, Harry Koenig, Theo. Auchey, Charles Goas, Hugh T. Ryan, and Jonathan W. Kramer. (6).

(Sources: 1—Records of G. I. Bensing; 2—Bertolet Reinhart; 3—Wm. Tyson and Mr. Palsgrove, Civil War Veterans; 4-5—Records of G. I. Bensing; and 6—"The Call" Sept. 13, 1918).

LODGES

At an early date in the history of Schuylkill Haven, the inhabitants realized the need for closer companionship and social activities. These needs were provided for by the various lodges that were organized. Many of these organizations provided insurance for their members.

The Red Men's Lodge was organized in 1882. The Schuylkill Haven

Branch is called, "Sagwa Council No. 171." Some of the early leaders were: C. V. Diebert, Francis Binckley, and Peter Bowers. The motto of the national organization is: "Freedom, Friendship, and Charity." The Schuylkill Haven Lodge disbanded in 1933. (1).

The Mountain Lodge No. 84, Knights of Pythias, was organized June 11, 1868. They had a membership of about one hundred and eight. They met in the Metamora Hall which is now the Bittle & Confehr Furniture and Undertaking Parlor. (2).

The Schuylkill Haven, No. 66, A. O. Knights of the Mystic Chain was instituted in 1873 with fifty charter members. They first met in Metamora Hall but later in Haurigari Hall. The Schuylkill Haven Chapter has since then been disbanded. (3).

The Theodore Koener Lodge, No. 41, D. O. H. was instituted Feb. 26, 1853. For two years the lodge met in a hall at Spring Garden. Then it purchased from the Sons of Temperance their hall on Main St., which was rechristened Haurigari Hall. The home was then sold and the lodge disbanded in 1898. (4).

The Knights of Malta was organized in 1915. This organization is for the specific purpose of extending Christian Brotherhood and Fraternity, the upbuilding of moral character, and also further undertaking of benevolent enterprises. (5).

The Patriotic Order Sons of America charter was received on Oct. 17, 1857. Charter members were: C. P. Saylor, J. W. Cohs, T. W. Saylor, W. A. Bast, R. W. Klown, A. M. Saylor, Sylvester Kantner, J. G. Dengler, J. H. Saylor, Edwin Robinson, J. G. Kaufman, and G. Koons. Forty-four members belonged to the camp before the Civil War, of which number no less than thirty served in the war. This lodge was once

the strongest in Sch. Haven. About 1902 because of financial difficulties the lodge disbanded but was reorganized within a few months. The lodge has continued in active service until now, at the opening of 1934. Approximately 175 men are members of this order. (6).

The Royal Arcanum was organized in 1892. It takes care of the family of any member who dies, by an insurance. \$60,000 has been paid out in this manner to members living in Cressona and Sch. Haven. Outstanding men of the community, such as lawyers, doctors, etc., make up the membership. (7).

The American Legion Auxiliary was formed as a part of the American Legion. The purpose of the organization is to help the widows, orphans, and ex-service men. This society was organized in 1919. It is not a beneficiary organization. The officers are: Mrs. Harry Feger, Pres.; Miss Eva Dechert, Secy. (8)

Page Lodge, No. 270, F. A. M., was instituted on June 7, 1853. Some of the officers were: Charles Saylor, David Baker, and S. R. Dickson.

The main purpose of the organization is to create friendship and brotherly love. At the present time it contains over three hundred members. Their present officers are: Elmer Roeder, John Betz, Wm. Yoder, and John Berger. (9).

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows was organized in the year 1845, and disbanded in the spring of 1885. In Nov. 1885, the order was re-organized with a charter membership of seventy-five, of which there are five members still living, although not active. Carroll Lodge No. 120, I. O. O. F. of Sch. Haven, has been instrumental in placing children of Sch. Haven in the Orphans Home at Sunbury, and also the placing of aged Odd Fellows in their Home at Middletown. Carroll Lodge was the first organization of its kind to visit the Almshouse

every Christmas, but has since been discontinued because of the many other organizations doing so. The present membership is 290.

Their present officers are: Clyde Bubeck, Noble Grand; Floyd Gerber, Vice Grand; Harry Bubeck, Recording Secretary; Joseph Freeman, Financial Secretary; Wm. Schweigert, Treasurer.

Nov. 9, 1933, a Male Chorus was organized by the I. O. O. F. of Sch. Haven, consisting of thirty-two members, all members of the order, and the only organization of its kind in the town. The name applied to the chorus is: "The Van Buren Male Chorus." (10).

The Junior Order United American Mechanics was organized in Sch. Haven in 1859. This order upholds the public school system and are against secret benefit societies and also immigration. They take care of the orphans of parents who die here and send them away to be educated and taught a trade. They have a membership of 258. The national counselor is Robert Dagler. (11).

The National Order of Eastern Star was formed by Robert Morris in 1840. Their aim is to help others, teach Biblical lessons, and practice kindness. They have been helpful in Sch. Haven by contributing to the playground fund and have helped needy families. The Sch. Haven leaders are Mrs. Lester Beck and Mrs. Ray Sterner. Their membership is two hundred and thirty-six. (12).

The Daughters of Liberty was organized in Sch. Haven, September 8, 1903 with a charter membership of twenty-five. This is the oldest ladies lodge in the town. The lodge has 49 members today. (13).

In 1906, Reber's No. 84, Shepherds of Bethlehem Lodge was organized with a charter membership of twenty-five. Eighty-three persons are now members. (14).

The Degree of Pocahontas was organized in Sch. Haven Jan. 26, 1910. The present membership is 90. (15).

The Sch Haven Chapter of Daughters of America was organized in 1914 with a charter membership of 75. This is the women's organization that cooperates with the Junior Order of United American Mechanics. Many women have been aided through the sick benefits paid by this order. At the time of writing the membership numbers 123. (16).

The Alice Rebecca Lodge No. 506 was organized in Sch. Haven May 7, 1921. This organization very actively aided in the celebration of the 175th anniversary of Schuylkill Haven. At present, 63 persons are members. (17).

(Sources: 1—Records of the Redmen Lodge; 2—History of Schuylkill Co., 1881, page 256; 3—History of Schuylkill Co., 1881, page 256; 4—History of Sch. Co., 1881, page 255; 5—Records of the Knights of Malta; 6—Records of the Patriotic Order Sons of America; 7—Records of the Royal Arcanum; 8—Records of the American Legion Auxiliary; 9—Records of the Page Lodge No. 270 F. A. M.; 10—Records of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; 11—Records of the Junior Order United American Mechanics; 12—Records of the Eastern Star; 13—Records of the Daughters of Liberty; 14—Records of the Reber's No. 84, Shepherds of Bethlehem; 15—Records of the Degree of Pocahontas; 16—Records of the Daughters of America; 17—Records of the Alice Rebeccas No. 506.)

CLUBS OF TOWN

The clubs of Schuylkill Haven, both past and present, have played an important part in the town's history.

Oct. 11, 1923 a meeting was called by Floyd Minnig to discuss plans to promote a Hallowe'en party and celebration. Twelve men reported. The celebration was held Friday evening, Nov. 2. To complete the business of the celebration which

had been a great success, it was determined to continue the organization as a unit for civic betterment.

Another meeting was held Monday evening, Jan. 21, 1924, and among various projects for the town discussed was a 175th anniversary. A committee consisting of H. D. Felix, Harry Goas, and Howard Oswald was appointed to determine a date.

The Civic Club functioned for a period of about six years, then failed to function, although it has not been disbanded at this date.

Some of the projects backed by the Civic Club were as follows: New water line into Sch. Haven, new concrete bridge at Broadway, improvements of Parkway, Athletic Field, and Upper Main Street, advocating a highway from Schuylkill Haven to Red Church, keeping railroad crossings cleared, looking after transportation for railroadmen between Sch. Haven and St. Clair.

Rotary Club

The Rotary Club was organized in Nov. 1923, and received its charter Feb. 7, 1924. The total membership of the club at the present time is 33.

The most important achievements of the club are: Sponsoring Athletic Field project for school, holding annual Christmas parties for about 1500 children, distributing gifts among the poor at Christmas, sponsoring the crippled children movement in Sch. Haven, administering in the past to delinquent boys.

Haven Club

The Haven Club was organized in 1922 with John Berger as the President and Chas. Williams as the Secretary. It is purely a social organization and is still in existence. The club has their own rooms in the Michel building. The present officers are as follows: Pres., Walter Knarr; Secy., Dr. Carl Eves; Treas., Chas. Williams.

Boy Scouts

The first Boy Scout Troop was organized in Sch. Haven on Feb. 12, 1922 under the direction of Rev. Brandt. Its present scout leader is David Miller, and the council number is 121.

Troop 122 was organized under the direction of Paul Bowen, on Sept. 29, 1931. This troop was continued recently and its members transferred to Troop 121 and 123. The leader at the time of disbanding was Wm. Harner.

Troop 123 was organized August 1923 under the direction of Allen Klahr. Its present scout master is Harry Detweiler.

The Cub Scouts were organized on Sept. 31, 1933 under the direction of Charles Graeff. This group is for boys from the ages of nine to eleven. Many of the town boys have taken an interest in this organization.

Girl Scouts

A Girl Scout Troop was organized on March 19, 1919 with a total enrollment of eight members. Miss Ella Sherer was the captain and Miss Anna Reed and Miss Nellie Reinhart were the lieutenants.

There are now two troops with four patrols each. It is mainly an organization to develop stronger characters among the girls. It is a very active organization. At present it is under the supervision of Miss Lillian Brown and Miss Isabelle Hoffman.

(Sources: 1—Records of the Civic Club, Harry Bubeck; 2—Of the Rotary Club, E. B. Pflueger; 3—Of the Haven Club, Dr. Carl Eves; 4—Of the Boy Scouts, Mr. Wilson; 5—Of the Girl Scouts, Miss Reinhart).

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY INSTITUTIONS

Schuylkill Haven has always believed in depending on itself. By controlling its own town institu-

tions, it has maintained that the people would be better and more economically served. Therefore, at an early date, provision was made to procure those institutions.

Town Hall

The Town Hall was completed and accepted by the council Aug. 1, 1916. The approximate cost was \$10,000. It is located on the west side of Dock St. between Main St. and Paxson Ave. It is a two-story building, containing the council chamber, gas and water department, electric light department office, and the station house. (1).

Electric Light Plant

In 1891, the borough council erected an electric light plant on the east side of Haven St., south of the Pennsylvania Railroad depot.

It furnishes light and power to our residents. The first electric current was turned on Thursday, Oct. 2, 1891, at 7:20 p. m. by Clarence Moser, son of H. I. Moser, President of the Town Council. The first superintendent was Thomas Brechhouse. The present president of the electric light committee is Jere Harner.

At first the current was used for the sole purpose of lighting our streets, then a few of the more wealthy people had the system installed in their homes. Finally almost every home has their own electric lights. Improvements were made to the plant continuously as the demands for power increased.

In 1929, a new brick building of the best type was erected. The cost for the building and the foundation for the new machinery was \$63,000. From 1929 to the present day the newest and the best machinery have continuously been added. The cost for the machinery approximates \$150,000. (2).

Gas and Water

The Schuylkill Haven Gas and Water Co. was organized during 1865 and 1866 for the purpose of supplying Schuylkill Haven and Cressona with gas and water.

The company was granted a charter by the legislature of Pennsylvania, April 1866. Work was begun on the reservoir almost immediately. The work of laying pipes from the reservoir was finally accomplished in 1885.

On Thursday, April 6th, 1882, the gas works was completed and gas was supplied, which was manufactured in a brick building on the north side of Broadway, near the Reading Railroad tracks. The gas at first was used for street lamps. The Schuylkill Haven Gas and Water Co. was a private concern under the Philadelphia Gas and Water Corporation which had their closest branch in Pottsville. Therefore Pottsville controlled the supply. After many years of controversy concerning the municipal ownership of water right, the citizens voted to the council on Feb. 4, 1911, the power to borrow \$51,000 to be used in securing water, making a reservoir, and the laying of water mains. Nothing materialized until the council decided to purchase the entire holdings of the company. Three expert engineers were appointed, one by the Gas and Water Company, one by the Council, and one by the Interstate Commerce Commission to submit a price for the holdings. This was done, the price being fixed at \$150,000; the holdings were turned over to the council Aug. 22, 1920 at the above price. Before the borough bought the holdings, the gas from the town was turned off and it was supplied by Pottsville. After 1920, the town began again to manufacture its own gas. Many improvements have been made on the building. It is no

longer used for street lighting but it is used extensively in our homes and factories. At the present time they receive their water from Panther Valley Reservoir and the Pottsville Water Co. Wm. Mellon was made president in 1920 and still holds that office. (3).

Police Department

William Stitzer was the first Chief of Police in Schuylkill Haven. He served over fifteen years and then Warren Brown was elected. John Butz took Mr. Brown's place as Chief of Police. He served six years in this office. Samuel Shoenner was then elected, serving until 1926 when Frank Deibert was elected as Chief of Police on Jan. 4, 1926. The paid police force started in July 1926. Percy Bubeck was elected as night patrolman with Clayton Bashore and Ernest Singer as special officers. (4).

(Sources: 1—Records of Town Council; 2—Records of Electric Light Department; 3—Records of Gas and Water Department; 4—Records of Police Department).

Hook and Ladder Co.

The Friendship Hook and Ladder was organized July 28, 1904, and received a charter Oct. 19, 1904. Meetings were held in Spring Garden Hall, northwest corner of Dock St. and Centre Ave.

On Jan. 1, 1905, they sold to the Schuylkill Haven school board 12 feet of ground adjoining the school property, known as the North Ward school building, for \$350.

July 15, 1910, they disbanded and united with the Rainbow Hose Co. A new charter was granted Sept. 13, 1910. Their property was sold to the school board Oct. 3, 1910 for \$1800. (1).

Rainbow Hose Company

On Aug. 13, 1885, the Rainbow Hose Co. No. 1, was organized. A charter was granted Sept. 2, 1885. Meetings were held in a building on Haven St. opposite the Pennsyl-

vania Railroad depot. The equipment was also kept in this building.

In 1894, a two story brick building was erected on the northern side of Dock St., east of Coal St., in which their steamer and other fire equipment was stored.

At the present time the Rainbow Hose Co. has two trucks, a chemical truck and a hook and ladder truck, of the latest models. (2).

Schuylkill Hose Company

On July 7, 1891, the Schuylkill Hose Co. was instituted. The charter was granted Oct. 19, 1891. Meetings were held in the Voute building until 1892, when a building was erected on St. Peter St., near Main St. where meetings were held and equipment started. At present they meet in a two story brick building. The equipment consists of two trucks—a pump truck, and a hose truck, all of the latest model. (3).

Liberty Hose Company

This company was organized June 4, 1908, and received a charter Oct. 7, 1908. They received a plot of ground from Mrs. W. L. Byrant on the Northeast corner of Columbia and St. James St. on which they built a two story cement block building. During the summer of 1910 this building was finished. This was occupied Sept. 1, 1909. At present the company possesses two trucks; one a pump truck and the other a chemical truck, both in fine condition. (4).

(Sources: 1—Records of Friendship Hook and Ladder; 2—Records of Rainbow Hose Co.; 3—Records of Schuylkill Hose Co.; 4—Records of Liberty Hose. Co.).

The Almsouse and Insane Asylum

The "poor law" went into effect in Schuylkill County in 1840, and during this year the County Commissioners bought a tract of land, about a half mile from the northeast borough limits, along the turnpike, formerly known as the old Sunbury road. They erected a

three story brick building in 1840, and a two-story building for a hospital in 1842, which was torn down in 1923. In 1850 a wing was added to the original and is used as a nursery. In 1859 a three-story building was erected to be used for the aged. In 1869 a building was erected for the feeble-minded and insane, and in 1872 a two-story brick building was erected for a bakery and laundry. In 1873 another wing was added to the original. In 1874 a larger barn was built to take the place of the original barn, and this one was destroyed by fire in 1931. This was rebuilt in 1932 and is a very modern structure. (1). The present hospital was dedicated Oct. 31, 1913. The total cost was \$570,-837.60. There are several improvements being made to the Schuylkill County Poor House and the approximate cost is \$72,000. (2) Among those improvements is a hospital to be added to the Poor-Farm costing approximately \$60,000.

(Sources: 1—History of Schuylkill Haven 1925; 2—Dr. Bowers, Records of the Insane Asylum).

CIVIC IMPROVEMENTS

The chief aim of towns and cities in the modern day is civic beauty. Some very fine improvements have been made in the limits of Schuylkill Haven.

The old Schuylkill Canal flowed through the center of what is now Parkway. At that point near the rear of the old Opera House, there was a wasteway through which surplus water flowed into the Schuylkill River. The Canal Street Level, sometimes called Gibson's Level, was crossed by two bridges, in addition to the Railroad bridge. One was located at Main St. and the other at Columbia St. The Main St. Bridge was made of wood and was removed on January 14, 1898.

The Columbia St. Bridge was an iron structure. It was removed and its space filled in, August of 1900. The removal of these bridges proved to be of great advantage to the people of the town. The general appearance of their former location was greatly improved.

The beginning of real civic improvement was the paving of Main St. with bricks during the summer of 1909. This was one of the greatest improvements because this street was usually very muddy.

After seeing the wonders done to this street, the people were inspired and paved St. John St. in 1910, and Dock St. in 1912. Later, when the finances permitted, some of the other streets of Sch. Haven were paved. In 1921 Centre Ave. was paved. St. John St. from Union St. to Liberty St. and also Columbia St. were paved in 1924.

Parkway, formerly a ditch for the boats, was filled with dirt and ashes provided in 1922. A monument was erected in the centre, for the dedication of the World War Soldiers and flowers and shrubs were planted. In 1887 when the canal was abandoned and the water ceased to flow through the Canal St. level, there remained an unsightly ditch. It became a place for refuse and ashes, until finally, through the efforts of citizens and the town council, the present beautiful Memorial Park exists, extending between Main and Columbia Sts. It was dedicated in June of 1922.

The light standards were improved on Parkway in 1922, (1) and on Main St. in 1933. (2).

The Columbia St. bridge over the Schuylkill River was completed in 1922. This bridge replaced the old covered bridge formerly found at this point. (3) Because of the weakening of the Broadway Bridge, a new bridge replaced the old one connecting this street with Dock St. This was completed in 1930. (4).

A fine improvement was the playground in the rear of the Haven St. Building. This work was carried on by the public and was completed in 1922. (5).

During recent years the policy has been established of covering all unpaved streets each spring with oil and gravel, thereby creating a solid surface. This has enabled Sch. Haven to be classed with towns of equal size as one of the most outstanding in civic improvements. (6).

(Sources: 1, 3, 5—History of Sch. Haven, 1925, and 2, 4 and 6—Records of Town Council).

IMPORTANT PERSONS

The progress of a town depends upon its citizens. Schuylkill Haven has made rather slow but steady progress, and there have been and still are many citizens of whom it can be proud.

Of the prominent citizens who are now deceased, Jacob Dreibelbis holds first place. He laid out this town, served in the Legislature, was Prothonotary and Clerk of the Courts, and Register and Recorder of the County.

Wm. Audenreid was brought here by his father while a small child; he became a Senator of Pennsylvania and introduced the original "Free School Bill" in the Senate in 1827.

Luther R. Keefer, whose youth was spent in Schuylkill Haven, and who was connected with all the town's activities for many years, served in the Senate for twenty-four years.

Samuel A. Losch, who lived his long life here, was secretary of the Territory of New Mexico, served in the Civil War, was a member of the House of Representatives of this state, and Senator from this district.

George W. Weiss, a graduate of the State Normal School at Millersville, was Principal of the Schuyl-

kill Haven Schools for four years and was County Superintendent of Schools for many years.

Elhannen Frehafer was clerk of the courts; Wm. B. Rudy, and Dr. Daniel Dechert were County Treasurers; Samuel Buehler was Jury Commissioner; Obediah Saylor was Coroner; John Frehafer and Geo. Kaufman were Poor Directors; P. R. Palm, F. W. Snyder, Earl Witman, and J. A. Noecker served in the Legislature.

Frank Saylor became one of the most eminent civil engineers in the nation.

Thos. C. Zulick, once superintendent of the Schuylkill Canal under the Reading management, later became one of the receivers of the Reading Railroad and helped manage it during bankruptcy proceedings.

Oscar W. Stager became the manager and superintendent of the Philadelphia, Reading, and Pottsville Telegraph Co., and later was made superintendent of transportation of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad. His brother, Henry J. Stager, became national president and ex-commander general of the Patriotic Sons of America and started the movement that culminated in making the site of Washington's Headquarters at Valley Forge a National Park.

Edward F. Shanbacher, who went to school here, became President of the Fourth Street National Bank in Philadelphia, one of the strongest banks in the state, at so early an age that he was often referred to as the "Boy Banker". (1).

Lieut. Roy Guertler, after graduation from the Schuylkill Haven High School, received an appointment to West Point Military Academy where he participated in many activities and graduated with a fine record. He then attended Primary Flying at Brooks Field where he

met with an accident and was killed. (2).

Rev. J. A. Singmaster, D. D., L. L. D. whose first call was to St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, was president of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg.

The outstanding citizens of this town who are still living are: Dr. George H. Moore, who was coroner when he lived here, is now an eminent eye physician in Philadelphia.

The Honorable Chas. E. Berger was at one time Judge of this Judicial District.

H. C. Wilson has served the courts of Schuylkill County as Assistant and is now Chief Official Court Reporter.

C. B. Palsgrove, E. W. Thomas, and Roy Brownmiller served in the Legislature. (3).

John Robert Jones, who spent his early life and school days here, became a lawyer and was elected to the Legislature. He served as President of the local School Board for a number of years. He is now a prominent lawyer in Phila. (4).

Elsie Singmaster, now Mrs. Harold Lewars, who was born here, is a charming short story writer. Two of her short stories are: "A Boy in Gettysburg", and "The Life of Martin Luther." Her brother James Arthur Singmaster, is President of the Singmaster and Breyer, Incorporated, inventor and patentee of Zinc and its products. (5).

Judge Edw. G. Gangloff, who now resides here, was admitted to the Schuylkill County and Supreme Courts in 1906, worked with the legal department of the Title Guarantee and Trust Company of New York, and later became connected with the Union Fidelity Title Corporation Co. of Pittsburgh as title officer. In 1913 he resumed his law practice in the local courts and became solicitor for the First National Bank of Schuylkill Haven and the Tower City National Bank. He was

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

elected Trust Officer of the Schuylkill Trust Co. at Pottsville in 1920 Judge Gangloff was formerly President of the Schuylkill Haven School Board, and he served two terms as Post Commander of the Schuylkill Haven American Legion Post. He is at present Judge of the Orphans

Court of Schuylkill County. (6).

(Sources: History of Sch. Haven, 1925; 2—Sch. Haven High School Year Book, 1931; 3—History of Sch. Haven, 1925; 4—Information from Dr. W. E. Stine and Miss Jennie Zulick; 5—"Who's Who" (1930-31), page 2,036; 6—Records of the dedication of the New Court House at Pottsville).



Orwigsburg Was First County Seat

(From "Pottsville Republican"—"Morning Paper," October 12-16, 1934)

**By Pupils of High School
Q. Q. Stauffer, Principal**

Upon one of the broader and higher of the many undulating hills which make eastern Pennsylvania so rugged and romantic, nestles the beautiful borough of Orwigsburg, with its several thousand thrifty, industrious, and intelligent citizens.

The citizens point with much pride to the early history of their town. It traces back to an early period in the last century. The first settlement near Orwigsburg was made by Wilhelm Deibert, in the year 1744. The next year John Hartman and his wife, both of German descent, settled close to him. Mr. Hartman and his wife were blessed with four children, two sons and two daughters. One day in the autumn of 1755, during the absence of the mother, and the youngest son, the father and oldest son were surprised and killed by hostile Indians, and the daughters were forced to witness the gruesome scene. After burning the cabin, the Indians forced the girls to accompany them; later, the older daughter, who collapsed from the strain and hardship, was scalped.

In 1747 George Gottfried Orwig and wife Gloria emigrated from Germany and located upon a tract of forest land, which, with great toil, they cleared and cultivated.

The first settlement in Orwigsburg was made by Peter Orwig, a grandson of the pioneer settler, in the year 1773. In 1796, Peter Orwig plotted the site of the present town, laid out its streets, planned it into

lots, and named it "Orwigsburg", in honor of his venturesome ancestor.

On March 1, 1811, the County of Schuylkill was formed out of portions of Berks and Northampton Counties, and Orwigsburg became the county seat. Settlers in other sections of Eastern Pennsylvania, and emigrants from the Fatherland were attracted to this new settlement, and it grew rapidly.

In 1813, Orwigsburg was incorporated into a borough and many of the buildings, business houses and dwellings, were then erected which still stand as monuments to the enterprise and ambition of the early settlers. The first county court in Orwigsburg was held in the present Arcadian Hotel. Prior to this time, court was held in the house of Abram Reiffsnnyder at McKeansburg. In 1815 the Court House was erected and sessions were held in it until 1851. In 1831, agitation for the removal of the county seat to Pottsville began, and finally terminated in having the question put to a vote. The result was 3,551 for removal and 3,091 against its removal. During the agitation, however, the business of the court had increased and in 1844 an addition was made in which were located the several county offices. But in 1851 the coal industry had eclipsed that of the agricultural districts, and on December first of that year, in accordance to an Act of the Legislature and the majority vote of the electors, the county seat was removed to Pottsville.

This historic structure remained empty for three years. On April

10, 1854 it became known as the Arcadian Institute, a coeducational academy. It remained as an institute for a period of ten years. For some reason in 1864 it was again without occupants. In 1870 an act passed by the State Assembly allowed the building to be sold or leased. In 1873 it was leased to the Orwigsburg Shoe Manufacturing Co. for a period of ninety-nine years. It was occupied for a time by the Rehr Shoe Co. and at the present time is being used as a storehouse by Levin and Harris Co.

The present members of the borough council are: Herman G. Miller, Pres.; John F. Krater, Secy.; Lin B. Zulick; Dr. Ira Fridirici; Wm. G. Rohrer; Harry Fegley; Ralph Deibert; Arthur Wagner. Other officers of the town are: M. E. Campbell, Water Supt.; Guy E. Waltman, Solicitor; L. H. Scharadin, High Constable; Elmer Ahrensfield, Constable; Harry B. Shoener, Chief Burgess; Frederick Schoener, Tax Collector.

Industries

Among the most important industries is shoe manufacturing. The first shoe factory, under the name of the Orwigsburg Shoe Manufacturing Company, was begun by Thos. Hoy and Solomon Moyer in 1873, who leased the old courthouse for ninety-nine years. The second shoe factory was begun by George Bickley and John Shoener under the name of Bickley and Company, which continued until 1881, when Thos. B. Zulick purchased George Bickley's interest. July 1, 1893, J. S. Zulick bought the business and with Harry M. Zulick formed the J. S. Zulick and Company, on the corner of Market and Liberty Sts. At the present time, J. S. Zulick and Company are operating two factories on Warren St.

In 1885 W. Clinton Kepner, who became a member of the firm of

Beck, Haeseler, and Company, formed the Kepner, Scott and Company. This partnership continued until 1887, when John Beck retired and Alexander Scott superseded him.

In 1907, the Werner and Company shoe factory was begun, and was later taken over by John Krater, George Miller and Allen Hertzell.

Among the factories no longer in existence are the following: H. S. Albright and A. E. Brown in 1880; Bickley, Anthony and Company, 1878; Folmer and Company, 1889, continuing until May 21, 1891, under the ownership of George Folmer, C. W. Diefenderfer and Geo. J. Irish; Eisenhuth and Miller, 1892; A. E. Brown and Company, established in 1882 by A. E. Brown and P. W. Fegley, who built a factory in 1889 on the corner of Mifflin and Liberty Sts., and ceased to operate when the factory burned on February 28, 1925; and Haeseler and Company, in 1885.

The two shirt factories in operation at the present time are owned by Levin and Harris. One of the buildings, which was purchased from H. S. Albright after he discontinued manufacturing shoes, is located on East Market St. The other building, purchased from J. S. Zulick and Co., who no longer used it as a shoe factory, is located on Long Ave.

Five underwear mills are in operation at the present time; namely, one by Wm. G. Rohrer on Wayne St.; another, by Hiram Leymeister near his home on W. Market St.; a third, by George Wagner, Jesse Houtz and George Linder on Independence St.; a fourth, by Mrs. E. Leininger on Liberty St. in the "Old Reliable" shoe factory; and a fifth, by Mrs. Fessler behind the home of John Bachman on East Mifflin St.

In 1888, Howard Moyer began to manufacture boxes in the upper story of the Werner building. In the same year, he sold the business to Harry Beck and Samuel Miller, who carried on in the rear of the historic court house. Later, Harry Beck, Edward Bearstler, and Geo. Ketner built a wooden building on North Warren St. After George Ketner's death, his step-son, Oscar Knipe, built the present brick building. Later, the Orwig Brothers took over the business. In 1931, John Orwig retired and the Morrison Brothers, Eugene Huntzinger, and P. H. Heim bought the business and are now carrying it on briskly in order to supply boxes for the factories in Orwigsburg and neighboring towns.

Beside these present industries, Orwigsburg is the site of several other economic activities. Among these, tanning was the first industry in the town. One tannery was located on the corner of Long Ave. and West Market St. before 1811. This business, owned by Solomon Moyer, George Kimmel, and Thomas Hoy, was maintained until early in the 1860's. Another tannery, owned and operated by Joseph Zoll, was situated on the orphanage property west of Orwigsburg.

Among the first industries, were two brickyards. The bricks used to build the brick addition to Reiffschneider's Hotel, now the Arcadian House, were secured about ninety years ago from the first brickyard near the Lehigh bridge, northeast of Orwigsburg. The other brickyard was operated for a time on Walborn Avenue by Wm. Moyer and continued in operation until about 1898.

At one time, Orwigsburg had two powder mills. The one located at Frisbic near Pine Creek, about one and one-half miles east of Orwigsburg, was owned and operated by

Geo. Bickel and later for a time by Wollys, who was killed in the explosion in 1877. The other powder mill was owned by Daniel Alspach on the Zerbey farm, south of Orwigsburg.

Orwigsburg also had a planing mill in 1890-94, which was operated by Lewis Smith on North Warren St., near the old Schuylkill County Fair Grounds. At one time, the town also had a Chinese laundry on E. Market St., run by Sing Key.

In 1877 Walter Horning had a tin-smith shop in the Kern building, and after moving to Landingville, sold the business to Thos. Reed and Thos. Haeseler who carried it on in the Seltzer building on Centre Square, until James Long purchased the business in 1891. At the present time the following conduct tin-smith shops of their own: B. A. Berger, J. H. Adams, and John Waltman.

Still another profitable industry was that of S. R. Kepner, manufacturer of cigars. This business had its origin in 1872 by B. M. K. Kepner. In 1882 S. R. Kepner began in the present "Legion Building." Until 1889 he moved his business from place to place until he was firmly established in the rear of the lot on which his residence now stands. He discontinued the business in 1928. Since then the store has been occupied by the Rose Shoppe, a ladies' dress store, and at present by Lovenia Fritz's Beauty Parlor. The factory building now is a meeting place for the Boy Scouts.

Thus, Orwigsburg has not been lacking in providing means for enabling its citizens to earn a livelihood, and its two thousand thirty-one inhabitants are more comfortably situated under existing general conditions than the people of many other towns and cities.

Businesses and Occupations

Businesses and occupations which continue to play an important part

in the town are as follows: General Stores—Wagner and Linder, Claude W. Edwards, Samuel Deibert, Weston J. Dunn, Harold Rarick, Edw. Swoyer, Ellen Paxson, Atlantic and Pacific Store, American Store, Luther Heim, Franklin C. Leymeister, C. M. Hertzog, Money Back Store, Elvin Boyer, Norman Siegfried, Elmer Moyer, A. Neal; Drug Store—Frederick W. Schimpf; Meat Markets—Harry Scholl, Webster Heiser, Earl Miller, C. E. Jones, Nevin Wuchter; Bakery—Wm. D. Scharadin; Restaurants—Querin Derinzo, A. J. Porambo, M. O. Rizzardi; Physicians—Dr. E. L. Klock, Dr. H. W. Dechert, Dr. W. F. Darkes; Veterinarian—Dr. Ira Fridirici; Hardware—John H. Adams, Orwigsburg Hardware Co.; Undertaking and Embalming—W. M. Armour, C. E. Greenawalt and Son; Tinsmith—Bright E. Berger; Garage—Orwigsburg Garage, Clyde Moyer, Alonzo V. Heiser, Edward Moyer, Howard H. Greenawalt, Morrison's Garage; Plumbing—M. E. Campbell, J. C. Rutter, Clayton Yeager, Frank E. Miller; Dentists—Dr. R. N. Newhard, Dr. E. W. Stout; Beauty Parlors—Mildred Houtz, Mrs. L. Combs, Lovenia Fritz; Dray Lines—Chas. Neiswender; Ice and Coal—D. B. Sterner, Howard Heiser, Emmett Heisler, Moyer and Neiswender, Mrs. Mildred Leininger; Attorneys—M. H. Moyer, Guy E. Waltman; Painting and Paper Hanging—Chas. Jacobs, Fletcher Lee, Geo. Freed. Herbert Freed; Marble Cutting—Daniel Heist; Contractors—Harvey Fisher, Warren G. Kramer, Roscoe A. Frantz; Tonsorial Artists—Geo. Fraunfelder, John Heim, Benjamin Eckroth, Harry Bast; Implement Dealer—D. B. Sterner; Flour and Feed—Harry B. Bensinger, Community Flour Mills; Cobblers—John A. Zimmerman, Wm. H. Deitzler, Ralph Lindenmuth, Morris Deibert; Poultry Raising—Irvin Scharadin, Richard Bensinger, Harry Gerhard,

Harry Scheipe; Newspaper—Orwigsburg News; Insurance Agencies—Harry B. Shoener, Arthur Reed, Harry W. Smith; Justice of the Peace—Earl Albright, Chas. Jacobs; Plaster and Concrete—Edw. Jones; Electrician and Electrical Supplies—Ralph Deibert, Edw. Bachman; Cleaning and Pressing—Jos. Yenkelunos.

The First National Bank

The First National Bank of Orwigsburg, one of the soundest banks in the county, was organized July 29, 1890. The officers presiding temporarily were: P. J. Ferguson, Chairman; John R. Leisenring, Treasurer; Charles Bowman and John Shoener, Secretaries. The following officers were elected: Alonzo P. Blakslee, President; H. S. Albright, Vice President; Geo. W. Garrett, Cashier. These officers were annually re-elected to their respective positions for twenty years.

The bank opened for business on Sept. 23, 1890, in a room of Wm. Moyer's property, located on the corner of Wayne and Market Sts., with a capital of \$50,000. Business was conducted here until April 1898, when it was decided to move to another building on Centre Square.

On the death of Mr. Blakslee, 1911, H. S. Albright succeeded to the presidency and George C. Diefenderfer, to the vice-presidency.

In 1926-1927 the present modern building was erected and occupied for banking purposes, Feb. 19, 1927. The vacated bank is occupied, at the present time (1934), by the American Legion. At this time the capital stock was increased to \$125,000.

On the death of Mr. Albright in 1930, John S. Zulick was elected president.

The present deposits total in excess of \$1,000,000; Capital, \$125,000. Total surplus and undivided profit, \$300,000, approximately.

The present officers are: John S. Zulick, Pres.; George C. Diefenderfer, Vice Pres.; Harold Shoener, Secy.

Present directors are: Geo. C. Diefenderfer, John S. Zulick, Harold C. Shoener, Alfred M. Miller, Lin B. Zulick, Geo. W. Garrett, Morris H. Moyer, and J. Arthur Wagner.

THE CHURCHES

In the year 1755 settlers came to Schuylkill County from Berks and built the first Lutheran Church in Schuylkill County, known as Zions (Red) Church. The Indians, being active, burned it down the following year, 1756. The frightened settlers fled to Berks County. They returned in the year 1766 and built the second church in 1770. These first two churches were built of logs. In the year 1803 the third church was built of stone, after the other was unfit for its purpose. Not far from this church, situated on the land where the Pottsville-Reading pike and the ground road leading from Landingville meet, was the Christ's Reformed Church built in the year 1794. In the year 1832 the members of the Zion's Lutheran and Christ's Reformed Churches agreed to unite and worship in the same building. The fourth church was built in the year 1883. It is the same building that is still used, (1934). The old Christ's Reformed Church was sold and torn down in the year 1883. When these two churches united Rev. Erb was the Lutheran minister, and Rev. Henry Leisse, Reformed.

The present pastors are Rev Clarence Steigerwalt, Lutheran, and Rev. Robert S. Edris, Reformed. The Lutheran Congregation has a membership of one hundred seventy; the Reformed, one hundred and eighty-five. The church ser-

vices although alternate, with the members of both attending regularly.

In the church is an old pipe organ which was one hundred, twenty-five years old in the year 1933. It was built in the year 1808 by a German and still serves its purpose. Sunday School services are taken part in by members of both congregations. It has an enrollment of two hundred six and an average attendance of one hundred and seventy-five.

Salem Evangelical

The first Evangelical Church was built on the present site of the Salem Evangelical Cemetery. This church was later used for a public school building. The cemetery was on the opposite corner. In this church Rev. Jacob Schnerr organized the first Sunday School in Schuylkill County in 1838.

Before the erection of the first building, meetings were held in private homes and in the court house. Sermons were also preached in a grove where Leininger's Mill now stands.

The Evangelical Church had its indirect beginning in Orwigsburg prior to 1817. C. King and G. Schneider were the first preachers. To this time (1934) eighty-five ministers have served this congregation; the present pastor is Rev. N. L. Bechtel. The church at the present time has a membership of ninety-one.

St. John's Reformed

St. John's Reformed Church of Orwigsburg is one of the largest and most prosperous of the town's churches. In 1934, the membership numbered approximately 400.

The church was originally an offspring of the historic Zions or "Red" Church. The members of this mother congregation residing in Orwigsburg and immediate vicinity, desirous of having more conven-

ient facilities for worship, took the necessary steps as early as 1830 to provide a church edifice. The cornerstone of this church, located at the corner of Tammany and Washington Sts., was laid on Aug. 28, 1831. The church was incorporated on July 2, 1835, under the title, "The German Reformed and Lutheran Congregations of St. John's Church in Orwigsburg." The building itself was known familiarly as the "White Church."

Being made up of members of two denominations, two clergymen served, both conducting services in German. A Church Vestry of two Lutherans and two Reformed and one trustee of each was formed. German preaching was continued until the close of the ministry of the Rev. Geo. W. Hartman, in 1911.

The union between the Reformed and the Lutheran Congregations came to a close in 1843. The separation after fourteen years of union, occurred during the joint pastorates of Revs. Geissenhaimer and Reubelt, who were opposed to union churches. The Reformed Church continued to carry on until 1907, when it was realized the time for a new church had come.

On Aug. 23, 1906, the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of the "White Church" was celebrated. In 1907 the cornerstone of the new church was laid. This is the building now in use, located on East Market St. On June 11, 1911, lightning struck the old "White Church" and it was burned to the ground.

Up to this time sixteen pastors have carried on the work of St. John's Reformed Church. The present pastor is Rev. Howard J. B. Zeigler. The church was recently improved for its one hundredth anniversary in 1931. The Sunday School was organized in 1830 and for these many years has played an important part in the history of the

church. At present many auxiliary organizations of the church are in existence, including the Girls' Missionary Guild, the Young Peoples' Society, and the Men's and Women's Bible Classes.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran

The congregation of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church formerly worshipped in St. John's Reformed Church. In 1843, the Lutheran members, desirous of having their own church building withdrew and organized an independent church. This building, situated on North Warren St., served the purpose for a time, but then the congregation became too large; the members built a much larger church building. The imposing brick edifice in present use on North Warren St. was erected in 1892. The congregation now, 1934, numbers five hundred and fifty-seven members.

The first minister to serve the congregation after the separation of the Lutheran and Reformed congregations was Rev. I. N. S. Erb. He was succeeded by Dr. H. A. Weller, who served for twenty-seven years, leaving Orwigsburg to reside in Philadelphia where he took up his duties as President of the Lutheran Ministerium of Pennsylvania. At present the pastor is Rev. Wm. J. Masser, who has served faithfully for seventeen years. The members of the Church Council are as follows: Calvin Moyer, Alan Hertz, Geo. Miller, Maurice Walborn, Wm. Rudy, Harry Brown, Harold Shoen, Claude Edwards, Ira Fridirici, John Adams, William Kerchner, Edward Heim.

An important factor in the history of the church is the Sunday School. Claude W. Edwards has served for more than fifty years as the superintendent. At present he is assisted by John Haeseler and Carlton Deibert.

The Ladies' Aid and Missionary Society has been, for fifty years, influential in the church and community.

The Covenant Methodist

The youngest of religious congregations in Orwigsburg that worshipped within its own temple was the Covenant Episcopal Methodist Church, organized in 1891. Rev. John E. Reber was the first pastor, being assigned by the Philadelphia M. E. Conference. For a short time meetings were held in the Arcadian Hall, but the ever growing enthusiasm of the congregation and the faithful labors of the pastor made a temple inevitable. At this time Lutherans were building their new church, and the opportunity of securing the old Lutheran Church building was eagerly accepted. The newly purchased building was remodeled and beautified. This church building served as a place of worship until the denomination came to an untimely end in the early twenties. The building stood idle for some time, and was then sold to M. E. Campbell who made it into four modern apartments.

EDUCATION

The Orwigsburg Academy was one of Orwigsburg's first schools. It was incorporated on March 29, 1813. This institution was established through the liberality of citizens, and a \$2,000 grant supplied by the state. An income of \$1,000 was to be used for free education of poor children. From 1830 to 1850 it ranked among the leading institutions of the state. Its trustees were prominent men of the borough. New trustees were elected every two years. The building in which the first academy was located was demolished in 1870. On April 10, 1854, Prof. W. J. Burnside established the Arcadian Academy. This academy

was held in the Old Court House. Prof. Burnside was succeeded by Elias Schneider, who was then followed by Rev. Fries. This academy existed until 1864. The course of study consisted of the elementary branches of an English education, classical and modern languages and music.

The Orwigsburg pioneer school house was built along cooperative lines, some furnished stones, some logs, and some mechanics furnished labor, so that the cost did not exceed \$20. The first school was taught by John Geisenheimer, and it stood where now are the ruins of the Old Reformed Church, on the corner of Tammany and Washington Sts. Instruction was in the German language, and consisted of reading, writing, arithmetic and catechism, interspersed with the singing of Psalms. A short time later, a school was established on the site of the house occupied by the late W. C. Kepner. About this time, Mrs. Margaret Roseberry taught a school on W. Market St. In 1826 a school house, built of stone, one-story high, was erected on the southwest corner of Franklin St., where now is located the Evangelical Cemetery.

At the time of the passage of the Public School Act, Orwigsburg was one of the four districts of Schuylkill County to first adopt it. From this time on, Orwigsburg took the initiative in the matter of educational development, and made rapid progress under the Public School System. From 1834, when a state law established free education, a good system of graded schools has been maintained.

The present Grammar School stands on the site of the Old Schuylkill Jail, which was used as a public school from 1864 to 1869. At the time the old jail was being

used as a school, one room was used for school purposes, one room for a meeting place of the P. O. S. of A., and the remaining part as a residence. In 1869, the old jail proved too small, and it was torn down and a new and modern building was constructed. This was used as a High School until 1911. In the year 1911, when this building proved inadequate, and not spacious enough, the original part of the High School was erected. At the time when the High School was being built, the old St. John's Reformed Church was used as a Grammar School. In 1931 and 1932, when the original High School proved inadequate, a new and modern edition of six rooms, with much modern equipment and with special features for lighting and ventilating was built to the original. At the present time the schools are operated on the six-six plan, under the supervision of Prof. Q. W. Stauffer, who succeeded Prof. H. W. Smith in 1927. The High School boasts a P. T. A. which was organized in 1927, and which has equipped most of the High School auditorium.

The citizens of Orwigsburg are proud of the fact that, when the State Department of Public Instruction classified the schools of Schuylkill County, Orwigsburg, with a population of 1,801, was classified with Pottsville, with a population of 20,000; Shenandoah, with 25,000; Mahanoy City, with 15,000, and Tamaqua with 10,000. Because of excellent supervision and directing by the School Board, whose members are John S. Zulick, pres.; Jesse Houtz, vice pres.; John Werner, secy.; Geo. Garret, treas.; Thos. Anthony, Rev. Wm. J. Masser and Prof. H. W. Smith, Orwigsburg has remained up to standard economically and educationally.

FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

The first lodge to be organized in Orwigsburg was Schuylkill Lodge No. 138 Free and Accepted Masons. It was instituted on June 7, 1813. The first officers were Theophilus Hughes, W. M.; Robert Scott, S. W.; William Nice, J. W. The first meetings were held in Graeff's Hotel; later the meeting place was in the Court House. At present the meetings are held in a building owned by the organization on East Market St.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows was organized on March 19, 1846. It is known as Grace Lodge No. 157. The first officers were: A. D. Baum, N. G.; John C. Rahn, V. G.; William Tyson, Secretary; Michael Seltzer, Assistant Secretary; Christian Berger, Treasurer. The lodge meets every Saturday night in the Odd Fellows' Hall. Their degree teams rank very high in lodge circles.

On Dec. 4, 1867, a charter was granted to the Patriotic Order Junior Sons of America of Orwigsburg. Camp 86 was instituted in the Court House, January 7, 1868. The first officers were: A. G. Hammer, John T. Shoener, Thomas H. Zulick, G. A. Garrett, C. B. Bossard. Meetings are held every Tuesday evening in the Odd Fellows' Hall.

Industrial—Council No. 437, Order of Independent Americans was instituted April 17, 1890. The first Councilor was Doctor E. K. Steckel. It first met in Fegley's Hall, but at present it meets in the Odd Fellows' Hall.

Faith Temple No. 131, Ladies of the Golden Eagle, was instituted November 14, 1902 by Mrs. Mary Schollenberger of Hamburg and Mrs. Olivia Anthony of Orwigsburg. The meetings are held every Friday in the Odd Fellows' Hall. Sick and death benefits are paid by this ladies' lodge.

Bethel Commandery No. 319, Ancient and Illustrious Order of The Knights of Malta, was instituted February 28, 1902 in Orwigsburg with sixty-two members.

Lavender Rebekah Lodge No. 49 was organized March 19, 1903 by Mrs. Kate Dennis, D. D., President of Mahanoy City. The first officers were: N. G., Tevillia Raabe; V. G., Ida Amour; Secretary, Maggie Knepper; and Treasurer, Emma Yeager.

Nay-Aug Tribe No. 140 Improved Order of Red Men was instituted July 11, 1911. The first officers were William Berger, Roy Kamp, A. C. Moyer, George Jacobs, F. C. Leymeister, and Charles Heisler.

Orwigsburg Chapter No. 424 Order of Eastern Star was instituted on April 27, 1928 by Mrs. William Masser.

Fort Lebanon Chapter No. 123, Daughters of the American Revolution was instituted on June 29, 1931 by Mrs. Wm. J. Masser.

Friendship Hose Company

The Orwigsburg Fire Company was organized on Nov. 5, 1828, as a volunteer fire company. The first fire engine, the "Pat Lyons" was purchased at an early date. The apparatus is still in good working condition, for as recently as 1932 it was used in Philadelphia at a demonstration of the United States Firemen's Association. In 1902 a steamer was bought from the Good Will Fire Company of Pottsville. A Howe motor was purchased for it in 1912. In 1921 the company bought a "pumper" known as the American La France. In 1931 a new American La France was obtained.

The officers of the Company when it was organized were John Bannan, Pres.; Samuel Huntzinger, Secy.

The present officers are: Charles Koch, Pres.; Harry F. Ketner, Secy. There are two hundred active members.

Wayne Twp. Settlers—Penna. Germans

(From "Pottsville Republican"—"Morning Paper," October 17-21, 1934)

(By WILLIAM H. KREMER, Summit Station)

The writer of the history of Wayne Township wishes to give full credit to the following persons who furnished him with much of the information: John H. Fessler and Harvey Garfield Heffner, of Friedensburg; Jos. A. Roeder, Jos. D. Roeder, Casper Roeder, Monroe Emerich, Allan Marbarger, Clinton Wenrich, Oscar C. Moyer, and Frank W. Meyer, of Summit Station. Much of the history however, is from the records of the writer.

Wayne Township was formed in 1827 from Pinegrove and Manheim Townships. It extends from the Berks County line on the top of Blue Mountain on the south to the top of Second Mountain on the north. It is six miles wide, being bounded on the east by North Manheim and South Manheim Townships, and on the west by Washington Township, and at present has two voting precincts, one in North Wayne at Friedensburg and one in South Wayne at Summit Station.

The first inhabitants of Wayne were mostly Pennsylvania German settlers, with a few Irish and Welsh families.

These people were mainly engaged in agriculture, lumbering, and the various trades related to those two major industries. The principal method of heating the houses was a large stove to burn wood. This stove was also used to do the cooking and baking. Many of the houses had hearths so arranged that cooking and even the frying of meat was done on the hearth. Almost every home had a bakeoven built outside of the house, where most of the baking was done. Each housewife baked

the bread, pies, and cakes used by her family. There were no baker teams visiting these people. There were no coal-oil lamps in the early days. Each family had its tallow candles or yarn dipped in small receptacles holding fat or oil. Many of the families considered the spinning-wheel a necessary article of furniture, and the hum of the spindle was heard until late in the evening. The good housewife saw that her family was well supplied with warm woolen stockings and gloves made by her deft fingers. Many families had looms, where carpets and linen cloth were woven by hand for a nominal price.

When a new house or barn was to be built, the neighbors were generally invited and on a certain day the foundation was dug out, and afterwards there was another party. when the frame work of the building was erected.

During the winter, when the roads were closed by drifted snow, the people used to club together and open the roads so that people could go to church. Nobody thought of being paid for that work.

Most of the conversation was carried on in Pennsylvania German.

There were a few high German families.

During the last fifteen years a large number of Polish, Lithuanian and Slavs have come to the township from the coal regions and have purchased farms and are engaged in agriculture, while a few continue to work at the mines.

During the early history of the township there were two grist mills erected. The one south of Dow was built around 1809. One of the early proprietors was Abraham Roeder. Two of his sons, Abraham, Jr. and Charles, learned the miller trade. The former was accidentally killed in a grist mill at Molino, while on duty; and the other son, Charles, continued at his trade for many years, when he retired and became the proprietor of the Washington House and afterwards the Farmers' Hotel, at Summit Station. His son, Casper Roeder, is now the owner of the Blue Ridge Comfort Station at the foot of Blue Mountain. The other grist mill was erected at Roeders over a century ago. Among the early proprietors was Casper Roeder; then his son, Daniel Roeder; and afterwards his son, Elias. It was in this mill where Bertha May, a young daughter of J. B. Kremer, whose dress was caught by an unprotected revolving shaft, was hurled around crushing her leg, from which she afterwards died. These mills made the flour and feed for the farmers, and they were the meeting places, where the news of the day was discussed. Roeder's mill was burned in the early part of the present century. Monroe Strause built the present mill on the site of the old mill. None of these mills are in use at present to grind grain. Roeder's mill is now occupied by the Lash Heater Manufacturing Company. In the last years of the nineteenth

century, Frank E. Deischer, of Pottsville, erected a grist mill and a grain elevator at Roeders, but this mill was afterwards destroyed by fire. There is no flour manufactured in Wayne at present. Peter Rollman was one of the last proprietors of this mill. Mr. Rollman had converted it into a roller flour mill previous to its destruction.

Prior to the adoption of the Free Public School System, a room was set apart in Roeder's grist mill, where a school was conducted for some years.

Industries

Among the other industries of Wayne, were a number of blacksmith shops, which were kept busy from early morning until late at night. Among the early blacksmiths were Jos. Shappell, Frank Brown, C. W. Freeman, J. A. Aulenbach, Irwin Bensinger, F. P. Schweigert, Wilson Schaller, Chas. Yeich, L. V. Brown, Geo. Freeman, and others. Since the advent of the automobile, one after another of these shops was abandoned, until there are very few remaining.

There was a shirt factory established at Summit Station operated by Mr. Kline, and one in Friedensburg operated by Mr. Miller, and afterwards by Mr. Honsberger. Both of these industries are now closed. In the early days the township was dotted with shoemaker shops, making footwear for the people, besides repairing shoes. Among the early shoemakers were: Jos. Gauker, George Roeder, Levi Roeder, John Ludwig, Monroe Miller, C. H. Roeder, Wm. Kramer, Phillip Roeder, Edw. Gauker. These shops have closed and the one conducted by Wm. Kramer at Friedensburg is the only one left.

Lumbering

Another great industry in Wayne was lumbering. There was a heavy growth of virgin forests in the township, and the cutting of these forest trees gave work to hundreds of people. The trees were converted into lumber, cord wood, laggins and mining timber. Steam saw-mills were moved from one tract to the other, while much of the lumber was also sawed by stationary mills driven by water-power. The latter have all been abandoned, and the steam saw-mill on the farm of Wm. H. Krause is the only one in the township where the farmers can have service.

Among the early timber dealers were Jonathan Wert, Strause and Emerich, Roeder and Fessler, Steinbach and Roeder, Frank Strause, C. V. Strause, Casper Roeder, Samuel Strause, Elias Wert and Company. Most of the timber was shipped to the P. & R. Collieries. Outside timber dealers have also cut down large tracts of timber in Wayne Township. Few good tracts are left. Among the foremost woodcutters in the days of lumbering were Frank Roeder, Pierce Kremer, John H. Bressler, Frank Strause, David Schaeffer, Jas. Strause, Wm. Wagner, Joseph Trumbo, David Fessler, Frank Bressler, Wm. Nagle, Wm. Krammes.

Scenery

Few places in the county have finer scenery than is found along the Stone Mountain, Blue Mountain and Second Mountain. The view from the top of Blue Mountain is magnificent and the various shades of color among these mountains in autumn can not be excelled anywhere. The topography of the land on the north side of Schuylkill Mountain, between Friedensburg and Schuylkill Haven, in the Long

Run Valley, is characteristic of this section.

Railroad

During the early fifties, the Schuylkill and Susquehanna, a branch of the P. & R. Railroad, was built from Auburn to Dauphin, through the Summit Station Valley. Most of the laborers were Irish and colored people, who lived in shanties, many of whom were erected by David Kremer, a carpenter. Many of the first engines on this road used wood for fuel, and were known by names instead of numbers. One passenger engine was named the "Huckleberry". Rows of cord wood measuring miles were piled along the tract, and at stated times these rows were reset in piles four feet high, after which an inspector came around and accepted the wood, after which a train called the wood-train came along and loaded the cord wood on small cars, and transported it to the various stations where it was needed. Hundreds of thousands of railroad ties were also piled along the railroad, and after inspection by the railroad company, were transported to the points where needed. All the coal mined at Brookside, Kalmia, Lincoln and Rausch Creek, were transported over this line. There were at one time eight or nine engines used to haul the coal from the mines to Auburn, where other engines took it down the main line. The coal was weighed at Pinegrove. Several freight and passenger trains also were kept busy on this road. There were four stations in the township: Roeders, Hammond, Stone Siding and Moyers. J. B. Kremer was the station agent at Hammond for many years, and Jacob Babb was the agent at Roeders. The other two were flag stations. These agencies have now been abandoned, and there is only one mixed train on the road, going

west in the morning of one day, and returning east in the evening of the next day.

Mail Service

Formerly there were three post-offices in the township: Friedensburg, Summit Station and Dow; but in the fall of 1933 Dow postoffice was discontinued, and its patrons are now served by the Rural Route from Summit Station. The mail to these offices are served by Star Route out of Sch. Haven. Aaron Zeigler serves the Star Route between Friedensburg and Sch. Haven, making two round trips each day. The Route from Sch. Haven to Summit Station, Rock and Pinegrove is served by Wilson Rhine, making one trip daily except Sunday. The present postmasters are: George Greenwald at Friedensburg, and Jos D. Roeder at Summit Station. The Rural Route out of Summit Station was served by O. C. Moyer and Frank W. Moyer, until he was retired in November, 1932. The present carrier is Clinton Wenrich.

Prominent Citizens

It is a fact not generally known that Wayne Township has at present the following of its early citizens in the ministry: Theo. C. Brown, Wm. H. Dietrich, Raymond Zechman, all of the Reformed Church; and Chas. W. Heffner, Harrison Heffner and Jos. Kreckler, all of the Evangelical Church.

The following lawyers have come from Wayne Township: George Mitchin, John A. Fertig, William Faussett, Irvin A. Reed and George L. Reed.

The following former Wayne Township boys have gone into the Railway Mail Service of the U. S. P. O. Department: William W. Ney, Herman Brown, Daniel Kremer,

Robert Freeman, William I. Kremer, Harold E. Kremer, Guy Reed and Herman Clauser. The last two afterwards resigned to enter other business.

The following Wayne Township boys have gone out to serve as letter carriers in Pottsville: Wm. H. Kremer, Arthur Kreckler, Harvey Berger and Arthur Berger, of whom Wm. H. Kremer was retired on age February 28, 1931.

Among the early physicians located in Wayne Township were: Drs. Schmid, Lehr, Walters, Cooper, Cleaver, Stewart and J. C. Bechtel. There is no physician located in the township at this writing, 1934.

Among the old families in Wayne Twp. were the following: Heffner, Fessler, Woomer, Yeich, Reed, Reber, Roeder, Laubenstein, Confehr, Snyder, Fisher, Hummel, Schweigert, Brown, Kremer, Schappell, Staller, Fidler, Nelms, Jones, Loy, Zeigler, Wildermuth, Dietrich, Marberger, Hehn, Hain, Riland, Cooper, Bittle, Schwartz, Nunemacher, Kreckler, Fritz, Wauner, Wertz, Wert, Nagle, Stoyer, Bernheisel, Luckenbill, Philips, Earnst, Hughes, Wenrich, Unger, Darcas, Gerber, Keller, Zachman, Zimmerman, Schwenk, Lerch, Fausset, Cressman, Krammes, Bressler, Moyer, Ketner, Young, Maidenford, Emerich, Berkheiser, Berger, Ney, Matchin, Schaubel, Trumbo, Lutz, Deerwechter, Schaeffer, Mengel, Hoffman, Freeman, Neuin, Batdorf, Kirst, Clauer, DeBinder, Woll, Hessenberger, Pfile, Clauser, Derr, Gauker, Strause, Degler, Rhine, Seigfried, Hand, Ludwig, Reichert, Fox, Mackey, Schweitzer, Wentzel, Lash, Peiffer, Krause, Miller, Achey, Wagner, Bensinger, Haag, Stupp, Fromm, Bartolet, Schaller.

Allen Marbarger has a large collection of Indian arrows found in different parts of the township, showing that it was a favorite hunting place of the Indian. Some of the early settlers lived to a ripe old age. It is said that Dolly Snyder, who lived at the first tavern on the top of Blue Mountain, was 104 years old when she died, William Kramer, of Friedensburg, who died in 1920, was within a few months of 100 years old, when he passed away; and Michael Fritz, of the same place, was about 91 years, and W. W. Krammes, who died on Christmas, 1933, was nearly 89 years, Elizabeth Miller was 89 years and Wm. Kerschner over 91 when he died. This indicates that Wayne Township has a healthy climate.

There is a private burial place on the farm now owned by Oscar Stump, where members of the Earnst Family are buried. One tombstone shows birth, 1718, death, 1768, dating long before the Independence of America.

There are two villages in Wayne: Friedensburg and Summit Station. Neither has a borough government but are under the jurisdiction of the township.

FRIEDENSBURG

Friedensburg lies in the beautiful Long Run Valley, and is one of the oldest settlements in southern Schuylkill County. It was an important village as early as 1811, for in that year, when Schuylkill County was organized as a separate county, Friedensburg was a candidate with Orwigsburg and McKeansburg to become the county seat of the new county, but Orwigsburg was selected. The first improved road in the township passes through the place. There used to be a tannery there, owned and operated by Michael Fritz and afterwards by his son, Wm. Fritz. It has long since been

abandoned, and the site is now occupied by Wm. Heffner, who has built a beautiful residence on the site of the Fritz old home. There are two hotels at the place. The present proprietors are Charles Roeder of the old Hummel Hotel, and Edward Keller of the old Union Hotel. The only general store there now is owned by Harvey Garfield Heffner. Previous stores of Kreckner, Ney and Brown; and of F. A. Brown have been abandoned. Luckenbill and Heffner formerly had a farm implement store at the place but that, too, has been abandoned. William Douglass has a fine garage and is doing good business. The shirt factory operated by Miller and Honsberger, and the cigar factories operated by Samuel Heffner and Willis Palsgrove, have also been abandoned. There are two churches, the St. John's Lutheran and Reformed and the Evangelical, both being in a flourishing condition. There is a one-room public school here. Many of the inhabitants are retired farmers.

W. P. Heffner and Son are engaged in the butcher trade and supply their many customers in the surrounding towns with the highest quality products. Many of the laboring people work in the Reading Car Shops and in the various mills at Schuylkill Haven. Some of the most prominent people of the county are proud to say that Friedensburg was once their home.

SUMMIT STATION

Summit Station is situated in the valley between Summer Hill and Stone Mountain foot hills of the Blue Mountain System and on the main road leading from Berks County to Schuylkill County. The first house built here was built by Egidious Moyer in 1775. The growth of the town has not been rapid and at the present date it has only about

125 people, but counting the territory covered by the Rural Route, which goes under the name of Summit Station, it embraces most of the population of South Wayne, as well as a large part of Washington Township. There is a one-room school house here with an attendance of less than forty pupils, although years ago, the attendance was above sixty. There are two general stores here, owned by Joseph D. Roeder and Charles V. Strause, respectively; and a feed store owned by Casper Roeder. The first store in the village was owned by Kern & Leonard, afterwards Ney and Kremer, and still later by J. B. Kremer. The store used to be the post-office, ticket and express office of the railroad station called Hammond. All these have been abandoned except the post-office which is in the general store of Joseph D. Roeder who is the present postmaster. Some of the early postmasters of the place were Kern and Leonard, J. B. Kremer, Wm. H. Kremer, Elias Roeder.

The only hotel remaining in the place is the Farmer's Hotel now owned and occupied by Frank Schweitzer.

There was a shirt factory here operated by Mr. Kline, but it was shut down and the machinery removed many years ago. A number of retired families live here. Some of the people are working in the mills and factories at Auburn.

Many years ago, the train service on the S. & S. Branch of the P. & R. R. passing through here was excellent, and the mail came by train; but since 1932, the place is served by Star Route from Sch. Haven and postal accommodations are as good as ever.

At the time the Pennsylvania R. R. was built from Philadelphia to Pottsville, there was a large stone quarry at Roeders, where the stone

was taken out to build the abutments of the bridges and there were hundreds of laborers and mechanics stationed here. They were mostly Italians, Swedes, and colored people. Business was booming and the population was largely increased. During their stay here a powerful Swede was injured in a friendly wrestling game. He died and was buried in Summer Hill cemetery. Late in the 60's and early 70's there was a stone quarry operated near Stone Siding, by Philip Steinbach of Port Carbon, and many of our early people found work there. Seranus Lash operated a sand mine at Roeders, but all these places have been abandoned. Summit Station is a healthy and pleasant place in which to live. Its water is of the finest and its people are sociable and the best of neighbors.

The records show that three residents of Wayne served in the Revolutionary War and nine in the War of 1812. Many served in the Civil War, some in the Spanish American War, 1898, and a large number of our finest young men were over sea in the World War. Several were in the Philippine War; and two: Milton Roeder and James Clauser, lost their lives and are buried in Arlington Cemetery, Washington, D. C.

SCHOOLS

Previously to 1829 there were no schools within the limits of Wayne Township. During the early part of that year, a highly educated young man from Germany, named Christian Meyer, came to the Black Horse Hotel, then owned by Valentine Brown. When asked his business, he told Mr. Brown that he was a school teacher. Mr. Brown then said to him, "If you will stay here and start a school, I will give you board and lodging free." Mr. Meyer agreed to do so.

Brown went out among his friends and interested them in the school. His brother, Geo. Brown agreed to donate a piece of land on Summer Hill, nearly four miles southwest of Black Horse and about the same distance northwest of Summit Station, near the present St. Mark's Summer Hill Church, being on a farm now owned by Geo. Brown. Geo. Brown, besides donating the land, also agreed to furnish the timber necessary to erect a building, and thus in 1829 the first log school house was built, and in the autumn Christian Meyer became the first school teacher of Wayne Twp. He continued his school, being paid by the parents of the pupils who attended, until 1841, when the Township adopted the Free Public School System, and Meyers was hired as one of the first teachers under the system. He was also organist and singing master at the St. Paul's Lutheran and Reformed Church on Summer Hill for many years. He was an excellent mechanic as well as a school teacher, and for many years was engaged in cutting tombstones. He was also a successful farmer. He raised a large family and at his death his son, Lewis Meyer, became the owner of his farm, and at his death the farm came into the possession of Samuel Moyer, a grandson of Christian Meyer.

The following schoolhouses in the township were built in order as needed: No. 1—Long Run; No. 2—Panther Valley; No. 3—Casey's; No. 4—Reed's; No. 5—Schweigert's; No. 6—DeBinders; No. 7—Black Horse; No. 8—Reber's; No. 9—Roeder's; No. 10—Blue Mountain; No. 11—Friedensburg; No. 12—Summit Station. Some years ago, Blue Mountain School was discontinued. The pupils left in this section are attending DeBinder's and Summit Station schools. Those who attend the

Summit Station school are transported by school bus. Casper Roeder has the contract for the 1933-34 term. Since the abandonment of Blue Mountain school, there are only eleven schools in the township and they have been re-numbered: No. 1 is now Long Run; No. 2—Friedensburg; No. 3—Reed's; No. 4—Schwartz's; No. 5—Panther Valley; No. 6—Schweigert's; No. 7—Black Horse; No. 9—Roeder's; No. 10—Summit Station; and No. 11—DeBinder's.

After the pupils have completed the work of the eighth grade, they are permitted to attend the Sch. Haven High School, from which school many have already graduated; and at this writing, 1934, there are 26 pupils of Wayne Township attending said high school, being transported by school bus, at present driven by Henry Fessler.

Some of the old teachers who taught in Wayne Township are: Christian Meyers, Mr. Gilbert, W. B. Berkheiser, Jonathan Berkheiser, J. B. Kremer, W. W. Brown, J. S. Brown, L. J. Brown, F. A. Brown, F. E. Brown, John G. Brown, Daniel R. Ney, Joel Ney, Wm. H. Kremer, Wm. W. Kremer, D. J. Kremer, Jas. Kerschner, Edgar Bechtel, Irwin A. Reed, Irwin D. Reed, Morris Batdorf, I. H. Fessler, P. M. Reed, D. B. Staller, Miles Staller, John Mengel, Manasses Mengel, Jos. Gauker, Chas. Manbeck, Irwin Lengel, Wm. Schwartz, H. W. Bressler, Annie Schweigert, Ella Weston, Mae Kauffman, Florence Brown, Robert Freeman, Milton Emerich, Luther Emerich, Allen Fehr, John Laubenstein, Edna Roeder, Jeremiah Hoffman, and many others not known to the writer.

The present staff of teachers 1933-1934 is: M. L. Wenrich, Elsie E. Kline, Mrs. Grace Heffner Mease, Guy W. Brown, Ivan Manbeck, A. J. Herring, Anna M. Noecker, Geor-

gine E. Zechman, Carrie E. Babb, Edith V. Heim, and Oscar C. Moyer, who is a grandson of Christian Meyer.

The present members of the school board are: John Fessler, Allen Marbarger, Wm. Zimmerman, Guy Reed and Levi Herring.

CHURCHES

There are at present four churches in the township; viz: St. John's Lutheran and Reformed at Friedensburg, which was organized early in the nineteenth century; St. Mark's Lutheran and Reformed on Summer Hill, near the site of the first log schoolhouse; Evangelical at Reedsville; and Evangelical at Friedensburg. The old St. Peter's Lutheran and Reformed Church in Beaver Valley has been abandoned for many years, and its cemetery is sadly neglected. In it is buried an officer of the Revolutionary War, whose grave is decorated by the American Legion of Cressona every Memorial Day. There formerly was an old church at DeBinder's but the building has been abandoned and the cemetery is also being neglected.

LODGES

There are at present five fraternal orders in Wayne Township: Odd Fellows, P. O. S. of A. and Independent Americans at Friedensburg; and Odd Fellows and P. O. S. of A. at Summit Station. The Friedensburg Grange is active among the farmers.

OLD TRAILS AND ROADS

The Appalachian Trail passes on the top of Blue Mountain along the borders of Schuylkill and Berks Counties.

The principal road leading from Berks County to Pottsville, passes through Summit Station to Long Run, and is known to the travel-

ing public as Route 83. It was improved by relocation and an excellent macadam road built in 1932. The first improved road built was the Long Run road through Friedensburg. An improved road was built through Beaver Valley in 1933, and an improved road through the Valley from Pinegrove to Auburn in 1932.

TAVERNS

The first tavern was the Blue Mountain House, kept by Dexter Snyder during the latter part of the 18th century. It was built prior to 1800, because in that year the Democrats erected a liberty pole there to celebrate the victory of the election of Thomas Jefferson as President of the United States, and the adherents of Adams tried to remove it, whereupon a small riot ensued and the Adams' people were compelled to march three times around the pole cheering for Jefferson. This tavern was built close to the site of Fort Dietrich Snyder, which was built during the French and Indian War as a refuge for the people from the depredations of the Indians. The site of the fort is now marked by a stone marker. This hotel was kept by John Batdorf for many years, after which Harry Heuin kept it until it was abandoned. A few old apple trees now remain where the famous hostelry once stood. The first hotel built at Summit Station was what is now the Lodge Hall, owned by Casper Roeder. Among the early proprietors of this hotel were Mr. Fasig, Solomon Bensinger and Isaac Hummel. Washington Hotel was built on the south side of the railroad, and among the early proprietors were Solomon Bensinger, Levi Wagner, Elias Roeder, C. H. Krammes, Chas. Roeder. The property has been converted into a residence and is at present owned and

occupied by Geo. J. Reichert. Farmers' Hotel at Summit Station is at present the only one of the old hotels in South Wayne. Among its early proprietors were Abraham Roeder, Samuel Strause, Charles Roeder, Frank Strause, Mr. Hand and John Fessler. The present proprietor is Frank Schweitzer. The old tavern at the foot of Blue Mountain used to be kept by William Reber, but it has long been abandoned, having been destroyed by fire. The Black Horse Hotel was built over a century ago. The records show that Valentine Brown was its proprietor in 1829. Other early proprietors were John Brown, Henry Brown, Israel Wentzel, Henry Degler. The present proprietor is Wm. Zimmerman. This hotel is the place where the Wayne Township School Board and Road Board meet to transact their business.

Long Run Hotel was built early in the nineteenth century and for many years was kept by John Woomer. Other early proprietors were Frank Reber and Joseph Stoyer, who is the present proprietor. Friedensburg has two hotels, which are old landmarks of the township. Charles Hummel was for many years the proprietor of one, and William Schropp, the proprietor of the other. There was also an old hotel in Beaver Valley, and one near the old John Heffner farm, west of Friedensburg.

These early hotels were stopping places for the great number of farmers coming across the Blue Mountain to the markets at Pottsville and other coal region towns. Thousands of cattle and sheep were driven over this road, and these places served as resting places for the drivers and the cattle.

CAMP OF BOY SCOUTS

The Boy Scout organizations of Schuylkill County have purchased a tract of land at the foot of Blue Mountain in Wayne Township and there have erected a large camp building and a large dam of the purest mountain water, used as a swimming pool. Hundreds of Boy Scouts from all parts of the county camp here during the summer months.

STONE MOUNTAIN MANOR

Stone Mountain Manor was built by Mrs. Maud Boltz, of Pottsville, and opened in the spring of 1933. It occupies the site of the old Jacob Schaeffer farm and sawmill dam, used for many years as an ice dam from which the farmers and hotelmen purchased their supply of ice.

A large swimming pool has been built for both adults and the children. There is also a large dam on which there are a number of motor boats. A hotel and restaurant and all the various buildings necessary to make the Manor a first class summer resort have been erected.

THE FAMOUS BRESSLER BAND

In October 1878, a band was organized at Black Horse under the name of Brown's Cornet Band of Black Horse, under the leadership of W. W. Brown. He was succeeded by Wm. H. Kremer until he removed to Pottsville. Mr. Kremer was succeeded by H. W. Bressler. The Band was afterwards transferred to Schuylkill Haven, where under the efficient leadership of Mr. Bressler, it has become one of the most famous bands in the county.

Ringtown's Name Derived From Odd Theft

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* October 22-24, 1934)

By the pupils of the Ringtown Borough High School under the supervision of Principal Robert E. Spancake.

The land on which Ringtown is located was once a part of Union Township. In what is now Union Township, Frederick Labenberg is believed to have been the first settler. He built a log-house and cleared a piece of land in 1801. He disposed of his possessions in 1810 to Benj. Trexler. Daniel Lindenmuth, Geo. D. Lindenmuth, John Eisenhauer, D. M. Nesbitt, John Fruhr, and John Hazeltine settled in the vicinity of Ringtown at about the same time.

There are traces of Indian occupancy, and the early settlers claimed that a deserted encampment was found near the Philip Derr place on the outskirts of Ringtown. An old trail is still plainly visible when the ground is covered with snow, winding its way across the mountainous section to the northwest of Ringtown.

Henry Gilbert, to whom a former historian of Schuylkill County was greatly indebted for information, was present at the first court held in the County, in 1811. His father was one of the jurors drawn in the first grand inquest. Daniel Butler was the first magistrate. His successor was John Everett, who was also the first merchant. He conducted a small grocery store near Enoch Manbeck's place about 1820. John Fertig and a man named Wentz were also pioneer merchants. The third justice appointed by the governor was Jacob Zimmerman, in 1825, serving until his death in

1845. Thos. Beddler was elected justice in 1840; Peter Horn in 1846; John A. Kehler in 1850; P. M. Barrow in 1856; David Davis in 1861; D. L. Stauffer in 1864; James K. Rice in 1874. The present justice is C. E. Barrow. Norman Stauffer holds the office of Notary Public.

Andrew Foster was the first physician. He died in 1863. One of his descendants, Jennie Foster, is still living. She makes her home with Fred Gearhart, who resides in Union Township.

The pioneer, Frederick Labenberg, was also the first innkeeper, while the first merchant, John Everett, is also reported to have kept open doors to the traveling public.

Mails were first carried here by Thos. Thomas, once a week. Old John Eisenhauer kept the first post-office at the place owned by D. M. Nesbitt. It was then known as "Catawissa Valley." The village takes its name from a thieving act which occurred in one of the town blacksmith shops in 1830. This act caused an enemy of Benj. Nehf to speak sneeringly of the place as Ringtown. The theft was that of a hub-ring which is used to hold an old-fashioned wooden wagon wheel hub together. That title clung to it despite the efforts of its founders, and, having long since lost its significance, it is now acquiesced in by all.

FOUR HOUSES IN 1838

In 1838, the land occupied by this village was owned by Benj. Nehf, and at the time there were four houses in the place—one nearly opposite the Mansion House, built by Jesse Hart in 1828; one where the Exchange Hotel now stands, built by Abraham Fry in 1830; one built by Peter Laudig in 1833. Mr. Nehf laid out a town site, and was interested in building up a village. In 1843, Daniel Goho opened a hotel in the Jesse Hart house, and two years later, the Exchange Hotel was built by Samuel Rupert and known as the "Rising Sun Hotel." This hotel was operated at intervals by Israel Applegate, Joseph Wiler, Mat Turella, and Stephen L. Litwhiler. Mr. Litwhiler operated this old stand for a period of 20 years as a hotel, boarding and lodging house. It was during his time that it became known far and wide for its kind hospitality and good old-fashioned cooking.

In 1880 the village contained about sixty dwellings, three hotels, three general stores, five shoe shops, four wood working shops, two black smith shops, a tannery built in 1860 by P. M. Barrow, and a school house. The two blacksmith shops were operated by Samuel Miller and Frank C. Fetter. The blacksmith shop of Mr. Fetter is still in existence and is operated by him. The town also supported one physician, Dr. Henry D. Rentschler, two clergymen, one file-cutter, John Hall, one tinsmith, and one saddler. The only post-office prior to 1845 was removed to town after a migratory experience of some years, and in 1854 its name was changed from Catawissa Valley to Ringtown. Several attempts were made to name it Biddlesville, but to no avail.

The grounds of the Catawissa Valley Agricultural Society were located here. This enterprise was largely local in its inception. These grounds were located where John Schmidt now lives. The first buildings were erected in 1871 and new ones added from time to time until 1887. The cost of the first buildings was \$3,890. Fairs were held here annually until 1890.

The first hard surfaced road ever built by the Pennsylvania State Highway Department in Pennsylvania was the Main Street in Ringtown in 1907. The road was dug out to a depth of about two feet and stones were placed with a cobblestone effect for a base before the surface materials were applied.

ORGANIZATION OF BOROUGH

In 1909 Ringtown Borough was organized. The first members of the Council were: Dr. H. D. Rentschler, Frank C. Fetter, who has been a member of this body ever since its organization, Luther Stauffer, Elias Rarig, and Francis Rumbel. The members of the present Council (1934) are: Clarence Campbell, F. C. Fetter, Milton Kunkle, John Dentinger, Jos. Woomer, Geo. Leiby, Chas. Hess, with Guy Rumbel as Secretary and Harry Rentschler as Treasurer.

CEMETERIES

The earliest burying ground was in connection with the Union Church, and the first person interred in it was Jacob Eisenhauer, who died May 9, 1815, aged two years, eleven months, twenty-six days. The first adult to whose memory a stone was erected was Daniel Kolb, who died Jan. 5, 1818. In this cemetery are stones erected to the memory of the following soldiers of the War of 1812: Jacob Laudig died July 17, 1863, aged 77 years; Benj. Lantzer, died Nov. 29, 1863, aged 71

years; Wm. Dombuch, died Oct. 5, 1847, aged 69 years; Chas. Bitting and Frederick Labenberg. The oldest person whose death is recorded on the burial tablets of this church yard was Barnard Eisenhuth, aged one hundred and eleven years.

THE CHURCHES

The Lutheran Church

Just when the Lutheran Church was organized cannot be ascertained from the records available. According to the custom of our forefathers, the early settlers erected a log school house for Church and school purposes, at or near the site of the Old White Church. This log Church was the place of worship for the Lutherans from 1810 to 1842. The members of the Reformed Church organizing in 1822, joined the Lutherans as a Union Church. This continued to be the place of worship for both congregations until 1842, when what is now the Old White Church was built.

The earliest church records were kept in an unbound paper book of 88 pages covering the years from 1810-1847. These were mostly German. They were translated into English and entered into a large record by the late Rev. A. P. Pfeuger. This was a stupendous task and required patience and perseverance, for the ink in many places was faded so as to make the writing almost illegible.

According to the records and biographies of pastors serving in this territory, in or about 1863, the Ringtown Parish was formed by a division of the Berwick-Mainville Parish. Revs. Boch, Kleine, and German served; but Rev. Josiah Stauffer Renninger was the first pastor recorded for the Ringtown Parish, serving from September 1863 to 1867. Rev. Henry Weicksel of the sturdy, sterling stock of

intelligent pious German peasantry was the next pastor, serving from 1867 to 1873. Rev. Samuel S. Kleine served from 1874 to 1877. Rev. Jonas Peter German succeeded Rev. Kleine, serving from 1877 to 1880. Rev. Henry Geiger became pastor in 1880. On Feb. 7, 1883, a special meeting was held by the congregation to consider the building of a new Lutheran Church in Ringtown. It was unanimously decided that a new church be built and the cornerstone was laid in the same year. From 1884 to 1889, Rev. Oscar D. Bartholomew was pastor. Rev. Clayton K. Drumheller served from 1890 to 1893. The Ringtown Parish was served by the Rev. A. P. Pfeuger for a period of almost 25 years, extending from 1893 to 1918. During this long and faithful pastorate, he endeared himself in the hearts of his parishioners. On Feb. 18, 1918, a call was extended to Rev. M. W. Krause to become pastor of the Ringtown Parish. The call was accepted. He is the present pastor of the parish having served for a period of 16 years.

During the spring and summer of 1924, congregational meetings were held with a view to consider the need and advisability of a new church structure. Action was taken to build a new church and the old church building was removed in April, 1925. The new church was dedicated on June 12, 1927. It is one of the most beautiful and modern to be found in any rural community. The imposing new church edifice of St. John's is located on Main Street.

The Reformed Church

The Reformed Church was organized about 1822 and united with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in building a log church that should at the same time answer for school purposes. In this building they worshipped until 1842.

The pastors of this church have been Rev. Knoll, Rev. H. Knoebel, and Rev. Isaac Shellhammer, from 1840 to 1872 and Edward D. Miller since 1874, under whose care the membership was doubled, and two new churches established; one at East Union, St. John's Church, number about 45 members, and one in North Union of about the same numerical strength, known as Emanuel's Church. The mother church is located at Ringtown. The membership of the Ringtown Church numbered about 200 members in 1880.

Rev. C. D. Lerch is the present pastor of the Reformed Church.

The Evangelical Church

The Evangelical Church was organized in 1870 with about 20 members. During that year a church edifice, Christ's Church of the Evangelical Association, was erected on the ridge, one mile south of Ringtown on lands owned by C. H. Hines, at a cost of about \$3,000. The Evangelical cemetery continues to mark the site of this first Evangelical Church.

The first pastor was Rev. Jas. Savits, who was succeeded by Revs. Thomas Harper, 1872-1874; D. S. Stauffer, 1874-1875; A. Dilabar, 1875-1877; E. K. Miller, 1877-; J. M. Ringer, H. D. Shultz, 1884-1885; J. K. Fehr, 1885-1887; Stephen Buntz, 1887-1888. These ministers were members of the East Pennsylvania Conference. In 1887, the Ringtown appointment was detached from this conference and attached to the Central Pennsylvania Conference. The following ministers were appointed by this conference and served: W. H. Hartman, 1888-1890; C. W. Finkbinder, 1890-1891; L. Dice, 1891-1894; S. Aurand, 1894-1896.

In the year 1894, the Evangelical Association was divided and the

branch that severed from the Evangelical Association organized in the spring of 1895 as the United Evangelical Church. The congregation at Ringtown was divided, some of the members clinging to the Evangelical Association, others to the United Evangelical Church.

Those members who withdrew from the Evangelical Association organized as the United Evangelical Church and built the Aurand Memorial United Evangelical Church on Main Street in Ringtown in 1895. Rev. Aurand, who was the aged pastor when the church was built, served until 1897. The following ministers then served: E. E. Shaffer, 1897-1900; W. H. Stover, 1900-1901; Harry Minsker, 1901-1906; H. R. Wilkes, 1906-1908; J. Womeldorf, 1908-1912; H. C. Guthrie, 1912-1916; H. D. Hill, 1916-1918; H. C. Kleffel, 1918-1925; J. R. Shecterly, 1925-1929; J. F. Rohrbaugh, 1929-1933; and the present pastor who furnished this information, J. Fred Bingman, 1933-.

During the pastorate of Rev. Kleffel, April 6, 1919, the church building was destroyed by fire and was rebuilt in the same year. The Evangelical parsonage located on Main St. to the west of the church building was purchased during Rev. Kleffel's pastorate. Previously to the purchase of this property, most of the pastors who served the Ringtown Congregation lived in Nuremberg, North Union Township.

INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES

The majority of the people living in Ringtown in its early days worked on their farms, later they were engaged at large saw mills and powder mills. Recently they secured employment at the hard coal mines nearby.

Hart's saw mill was located one mile west of Ringtown on the Little Catawissa Creek, in 1853. In 1913, Frank Lindner purchased this mill

and operated it with a large tractor. Formerly it was run by water power. The site of this mill is at present used by Harry Houser, who has erected a modern gas station and handles products of all kinds.

John Mourey's saw mill and grist mill was located one-half mile west of Ringtown on the Little Catawissa Creek in 1853. This is known today as Rumbel's dam.

Ludwig Zimmerman's saw mill was located one mile north of Ringtown also on the Little Catawissa Creek in 1853. The exact spot or site of this mill was later spanned by the Reading Railroad High Bridge.

Abraham Bitting's saw mill, one and one-half miles north of Ringtown, was run by water power from the Little Catawissa Creek. It was built in 1873 and its site is today marked by the residence and home of Calvin Reigel. Other saw mills were those of Henry Stauffer in 1863, which is at present the site of Chas. Stauffer's swimming pool and picnic grounds. Levi Frye's saw mill was built in 1853, and Samuel Thrasher's saw mill was built in 1853.

Captain Raup's saw mill, two miles north of Ringtown, built in 1853 at the foot of what is now Powder Mill Hill, became the site of one of the first powder mills in this section. Bankes and Miller erected a powder mill on this spot in 1878. Fifteen years later these same men constructed a large dam and powder mill one-half mile away from the original site.

John Tittman's powder mill, one mile east of the dam and mill of Bankes and Miller was erected in 1898. In 1912, the Dupont Powder Company purchased Tittman's mill and moved it to Ferndale.

In addition to the above activities, there were also several factories in Ringtown. In 1885 the

building known as "the old mill" at the western end of Ringtown was built by J. B. Kester and Son. They opened a flour mill. The millers were: Beeber, Yohe, Al. Byrd, and Daniel Shuman. The mill was later moved to Mainville by Mr. Shuman. In 1902, Mr. Kester started a Toy factory. The building was later rented by Daniel Shoup, who established a bottling works. In 1908, Michael and Hart rented the place and made cement blocks. Many of these blocks are still to be seen in Ringtown. Michael and Hart continued this business for three years. The building was then purchased by Robert Breisch, who used it as a store room.

The home of Albert Stauffer marks the site of one of the earliest school houses and later it was used as a factory. This was a knitting factory. Stockings were knitted here by a Mr. Johnson for several years.

In 1912, Harwood and Von Rohl Piano Company established a piano factory in the building opposite the present site of the Evangelical Church. In 1923 an underwear factory was managed by William Eishenhardt in this same building. At the present time there are no industrial operations or factories in operation.

FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

The oldest fraternal organization in Ringtown is the Patriotic Order Sons of America organized in 1882, with Geo. D. Nungesser as the first president.

The Independent Order Odd Fellows was organized in 1886, with Peter E. Bean as the first presiding officer.

The Knights of the Golden Eagle came into existence in 1905.

The American Legion Post under the leadership of John Ertwine was organized in 1921.

There are two women's organizations: The American Auxiliary and the Patriotic Order of America.

The Red Cross, during the World War and several years later, functioned actively as a branch of the Shenandoah unit and still enrolls from 50 to 90 members per year.

EDUCATION

The first school house was built about 1820. It was a log building, standing near where the Union Church now stands. Its first teacher was a man by the name of Sahm. The first election of school directors under the new law was in 1852, but the opposition succeeded in choosing men opposed to any change. This was continued annually, until, in 1859, an appeal to the courts caused the appointment of Wm. M. Davis, Jacob Seltzer, D. M. Stauffer, Dr. Andrew Foster, Henry Van Duzen, and Samuel M. Miller. Mr. Miller resigned and was replaced by Michael M. Kester. These men were instructed to exhaust all the resources of the law in its fulfillment, if necessary. The struggle by which the stolid "Dutchmen" had the blessing of free schools thrust upon them was a long and hard fought one. The Germans defeated every effort made to establish free schools until 1858 when the court appointed the foregoing men as school directors. But these men, after laying a school tax and locating school houses, were forced to retreat and abandon their efforts. "In July, 1859, the court appointed six others, who fought the cause with a determination equaled only by that of the opposition. They levied the tax and appointed a collector, who, being a man of unshaken courage and endurance, accomplished his part of the work under the most trying circumstances. He says, 'Many guns were

leveled at me, and threats of death were made. At one house I was badly scalded by a woman throwing boiling water over me; at another, a woman struck me on the back of the head with a heavy iron poker; and at another, I was knocked down with a stone and assaulted with pitchforks and clubs, but succeeded in getting away with three of their cows. Many wealthy farmers did not pay their tax till after I had taken some of their stock, advertised it for sale, and they had consulted their attorneys'." An interest was finally awakened which resulted in the erection of as fine a series of brick buildings as could be found in any rural community in the county. A central high school was established that afforded more extended educational advantages than were usually found in agricultural sections in any other part of the state. The schools numbered seven in 1880, with five buildings, costing about \$1,300 each, and the Ringtown High School costing \$2,400 in which two schools were taught. This high school was located first on the site where Robert Merwine's residence now stands, diagonally across Main Street from the Reformed Church. It was later removed to the site where Albert Stauffer's residence now is, next to the Drescher Brothers farmhouse. In 1888-'89, the Board of Education decided to erect a new high school building. After many debates, they erected a two-story brick building with four classrooms. This was the Old Red Brick Building (as it is known today) which is used at the present time for educational purposes by the first eight grades.

The members of the Board of Directors just prior to and at the time of the building of the new high school were: Dr. Henry D. Rentschler, Elias Miller, Frank Laudig, Robert Breisch, Jos. Stauffer.

Some of the instructors in the Ringtown schools were: James A. Seeley, Richard Breisch, a Mr. Thiel, Mr. Johnson, Charles Moyer, E. H. Owlett. In 1889, Frank Krebs, who later became an instructor in the Keystone State Normal School at Kutztown, Pa., was appointed as head teacher in the new high school building with Mrs. Cecilia Stauffer and Mrs. Henry Krebs as assistants. Irvin A. Seltzer was appointed in 1890 and held this position until 1906. In 1907 he was reappointed and served continuously until 1916. He served in the capacity of principal for a period of 25 years, having held the position longer than other teachers prior to him or since. In 1916 he was appointed as an Assistant County Superintendent of Schools by Livingston Seltzer for Schuylkill County. He served continuously in this field until 1930, when he was elected County Superintendent of Schools. It was through the untiring efforts and interest of Mr. Seltzer in the field of education that the Ringtown Public Schools were organized and the high school recognized by the State Department of Public Instruction. There were two recognized and accredited township high schools in Schuylkill County in 1903, Ringtown (Union Township) High School was one of these. When the law changed, relative to education, in 1907, it became a 2-year high school. In 1916, courses of instruction in science were added to the curriculum and it became a 3-year high school. It remained a 3-year high school until 1930, when conditions became such that overcrowding resulted. The Board of Education decided to erect a new high school building with provisions for an additional year in the high school. A beautiful yellow brick building with four large classrooms, scientific laboratory, and gymnas-

ium-auditorium was erected in 1930 at a cost of \$23,000. The surroundings of this new building and the old red brick building were beautified with shrubbery and evergreens in the spring of 1933. The 2-acre playground has been laid out into a baseball field and double tennis courts, all surrounded by evergreens. The money for the payment of the evergreens and shrubbery was furnished by the Ringtown Borough Council and the members of the 1933 graduating class of the high school. The Old Red Brick Building was completely remodeled and painted and a stone retaining wall built to the north of the tennis courts in 1934. The labor for this work was paid for with money allocated to the school district by the Federal Government under the Civil Works Administration inaugurated during President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Administration.

The present members of the Board of Education are: Elmer C. Horne, Oscar H. Boyer, A. Ray Breisch, Philip Schmidt, Warren Horn. The teaching force in the high school and grades in 1934 are: Supervising Principal, Robert E. Spancake, Merlin Stauffer, Mary Showers, Erma E. Bitting, Donald Fetter, Emma E. Stauffer, Evelyn Gilbert, Emily Barrow. There are about 75 pupils in the high school and 200 in the grades.

IN THE AMERICAN WARS

Of the officers and privates of the 53 Battalions of the Colony of Pennsylvania in the American Revolution, July 4, 1776, Colonel Michael Lindenmuth of the Fourth Battalion, is very closely associated with the localities of Schuylkill and Berks Counties.

Colonel Michael Lindenmuth is possibly the oldest pioneer resident of Ringtown. He died in October, 1785. Colonel Lindenmuth was mar-

ried three times. There were four sons, Daniel, George, Henry, and Martin. His sons served as drummer boys in Captain Rodermel's and Lieutenant Umbenhauer's Companies for which they received 49 lbs. Sterling. Colonel Lindenmuth died suddenly while enroute to the seat of Government to collect a claim he held against it for a large sum of money he had advanced to the Commissary Department for supplies for the men in his command.

Frederick Labenberg also fought in the War of the Revolution. He had built a log house in this vicinity in the year 1801.

Civil War

Drafted men who furnished substitutes during the Civil War were: Adam Breisch, Henry Breisch, Jacob Laudig, Jr., Francis Seltzer, Wm. Fry and Chas. Biebelheimer.

Drafted men who paid commutation: Wm. Lindenmuth, David Snyder, and Jos. Stauffer.

Those who served in the war were: Co. D, 48th Regt.—Daniel Merwine; Co. I, 48th Regt.—Nathan Furman, Henry Shappell, Jos. Gilbert, John Link, Lucian Manbeck, Conrad Reich, and Rudolph Rumbel; Co. G, 48th Regt.—Peter Grieger, Jr.; Co. E, 96th Regt.—Stephen Dresher, and Co. B, 2nd Penna. Artillery—Edward Hetherington.

The following men also served in the Civil War, but no records are available: John Brocious, Squire Horne, Wm. Horne, Jos. Zimmerman, Peter Keller, Samuel Zimmerman, Rev. Sandoe, Jere Lindenmuth, John Moser, Israel Kehley, Wilhelm Dornbach, Chas. Faust, Lewis Fuhrman, Chas. Bitting, Henry Houser, Elwood F. Kehley, Franklin Musgrove, Guy Manbeck, I. L. Rich, Enoch Manbeck, John J. Rupert, Abraham Eisenhauer, Chas. Everett, Daniel D. Krieger, Jacob

Gerling, Jacob Smith, Geo. Smith, Wm. H. Koch, Daniel Krieger, Geo. Gilbert, Martin Nungesser, Samuel Kisbach, John Horne, Edw. Leiser, Geo. Nungesser, Wm. Zimmerman, Alexander Boone, Geo. H. Knecht, David Eisenhauer, Jacob Laudig, Chas. E. Seltzer, Chas. Fritz, J. R. Seltzer, Amos Houser, Barney Houser, Jos. Reich, Samuel Kreisher, Samuel Beaver, Gideon Beaver, L. Holderman, Peter E. Bean, David Herbine, Samuel Eisenhart, Israel Applegate, John E. Laudig, Peter Laudig, Geo. W. Hoffman, T. A. Nythas, Henry Fry, John H. Stauffer, John Link, John Bankes, Frederick Labenberg, Wm. F. Seltzer, Jonas Bankes, Jos. Lauderback, Francis Houser, 3 Unknown.

Spanish American War

Those who served in the Spanish American War were: 8th Regiment—Daniel Krieger, Priv., Co. F Res., Ringtown Enrd., May 7, 1898; Wm. F. Miller, Priv., Co. F. Res., Ringtown Enrd., June 10, 1898.

World War

The World War records are as follows: Casualties—Harry Kase, of Ringtown, killed Aug. 29, 1918, Pvt., Co. I, 126 Inf., A. E. F.; Carl L. Spannuth, injured, and Wm. C. Lindenmuth, wounded, Nov. 8.

Deceased: Non-commissioned men—Albert E. Eisenhauer, Pvt., 154 Dep.; ———, Brig, Pvt., died Oct. 9, 1918; Harper Reigel, Camp Meade, Md.; Wm. Reigel, Pvt. 1 cl., Co. D, 103d Engrs., A. E. F.; John Dillman, and Guy P. Manbeck, Corp., Co. G, 84 Inf.

Officers of Army: Albert W. Bean, 2nd Lt., Cots., Camp Gordon, Pa.; John Ertwine, 2nd Lt., Cots., Camp Greenleaf, and Maxwell B. Ertwine, 2nd Lt., Inf., A. E. F., France.

Enlistments: Arthur Kline, Fireman 1 cl., Naval Hosp., Newport, R. I.; Jos. White, Seaman 2 cl., Naval Hosp., N. Y.; Samuel Beaver, Pvt.,

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

SATC; Gary H. Beaver, Wag. Co. G, 103 Am. Ln., A. E. F., France; Wm R. Bitting, Pvt., Bty. 108 FA, A. E. F., France; Chas. Bitting; John Brown, Pvt., Co. C, 19 Bn. Inf., Rep & Lng., C. E. L., Va.; Howard Drumheller, Pvt., Co. C, 164 Inf., A. E. F., France; Albert E. Eisenhauer, Camp Meade, Md.; Raymond G. Everett, 1 cl., Btry. A, 64 Arty., C. A. F. France; Daniel A. Faust, Corp., 103 Gd. Co., ASO, A. E. F., France. Frank George Fetterman, Pvt., Co. C, 146 Inf., A. E. F., France; Benj. Gebhart, Pvt., Med. Det., A. E. F., France; Merl T. Hartman, SATC, State College, Pa.; Guy Victor Horne, Pvt., 155 Dep. Brig.; Silas B. Kahley, Pvt., Co. L, 164 Inf., A. E. F., France; Benton R. Koch, Pvt. 1 cl., Co. B, 414 Til. Bn., A. E. F., France; Wm. C. Labenberg, Pvt., Co. K, Engrs., A. E. F., France; Allen R. Laudig, Pvt. 1 cl., 159 Co. T., A. E. F., France; Edw. M. Laudig, Pvt. 1 cl., Co. A, 332 Fd. Sg. Bn., A. E. F., France; Jas. A. Laudig, Pvt., 155 Dep. Brig.; Harrison A. Linden-

muth, Mus. Gen., Hosp. 43; Roy A. Lindenmuth, Pvt. 1 cl., Hdq. Co., 115 Inf., A. E. F., France; Wm. C. Lindenmuth, Co. D, 103 Engrs., A. E. F., France; John H. MacDonald, Cor., Co. D, 316 Inf., A. E. F., France; Alfred H. Manbeck, Pvt., Co. D, 87 Engrs.; Robert Manbeck, Pvt., Cots., Camp Lee, Va.; Henry McCord, Pvt., Co. K, 56 Engrs., A. E. F., France; Geo. R. Moser, Pvt., Co. A, 4 Art. Pk., A. E. F., France.

Raymond Schlauch, Pvt. 1 cl., 4 Lng. Hq. & M. P., A. E. F., France; Amos M. Shoup, Pvt. 1 cl., Sup. Co., 315 Inf., A. E. F., France; Raymond Slach; Franklin Stauffer, Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh; Raymond H. Stauffer, Pvt., Hq. Co., 121 F A, A. E. F., France; Wm. P. Trexler, Corp., Hq. Ln. 96; John Yescavage, Pvt., Co. B, 159 Inf., A. E. F., France; Wm. Bean, Air Service; John Drumheller; Chas. Eisenhauer, Air Service; Frank A. Stauffer; Chas. Hennesy, Co. 7, 2nd Reg., A. S. M.; Edw. Zimmerman, Hdqrs. Co., 59th F. A., and Howard Carl.

Indians Menace To West Penn Pioneers

(From "Pottsville Republican"—"Morning Paper," October 25-30, 1934)

"The History of West Penn Township" was contributed by Jacob A. Eberts, Chairman; Mrs. Margaret Reidell, Secretary. Committee Members: Miss Evelyn Eberts, Miss Elsie Hafer, Wm. D. Knepper, Mrs. Ella Baer, Mrs. Erna Lach, Albert Miller, Charles Miller, Wm. Kaiser, Miss Ferne Schaeffer and Mrs. Lulu Kitchen.

The early settlers according to the majority of historians, settled along the southern border of West Penn Township around 1750. It was natural for them to settle this section of the township first; since their mode of travel and transportation was either by boat on rivers, or by animal on land. The rivers used by them that brought them in from the Atlantic Coastal Plain were the Lehigh and Schuylkill.

Various groups of people settled in what is now known as West Penn. There are records of French, Dutch, Germans, Scotch-Irish and Welsh.

Most of these people were of sterling worth and most excellent character. A hardy, active, hospitable people—only a little hasty and quarrelsome at times.

These pioneers, who were exposed to many Indian depredations, came here for conscience sake; those who came later, came to improve their temporal as well as their spiritual condition.

Many stories have been told about the hardships of the white people met with the Indians. For serious and fatal punishment, the Indians used the scalping treatment on the new comers. This was a very common practice used by the Indians, which is: whenever they killed any enemies, they cut off the skin from the crown of their heads and carried

it with them for a testimony and evidence that they had killed so many, receiving sometimes a reward for each scalp.

Wm. Gable migrated to Mahoning Valley in West Penn Twp. and obtained a tract of land from the Commonwealth on Jan. 20, 1767. The tract was known as Amsterdam and contained 349 acres, Andrew Ellicott being Secretary of Land Office, Gable and a neighbor by the name of Nathan Beech went from Mahoning Valley to Lizard Creek Valley one day in 1774 and on their return trip were captured by Indians who murdered both men. Both these men were buried in the Mahoning Valley in West Penn Township about 200 yards from Carbon County line, and their graves are marked with stones bearing their initials and date.

Andrew Harrigar, another early settler in what was then known as Penn Township, Northampton Co., now West Penn Twp., Schuylkill Co., was taken prisoner together with a number of other people by the Indians, and was carried off. The Indians traveled with their prisoners until they reached the Susquehanna River, where they camped. Mr. Harrigar being a good marksman was given the privilege by the Indians to shoot several deer enroute. When they made camp, they sent Harrigar for water to the

river. After several trips he secretly stole the gun he used for shooting deer, and when he again reached the river, he started to wade across. However, the water was too deep, and he was forced to swim and had to part with the gun. He swam across the river and hid on the opposite side under a log which was washed out underneath, there he laid with only his head above water. The Indians followed him and stood on top of the log where he was hiding, but failed to detect him. The following day, after the Indians had left with the other prisoners, Harrigar spied a canoe coming down the river. He managed to crawl in this and lying flat in the bottom of the boat floated for days down the river until some one on shore noticed the canoe and shouted. Harrigar hearing the voice raised his hand. He was too weak to stand. He was rescued and nursed for some days and then sent to his home, never to regain his health which he had lost through his horrible experiences.

William Arner came to America from Switzerland in 1797 and settled near the eastern end of West Penn Township, which section was then largely wilderness; building himself a home and barn, the hinges on the doors being made out of wood. Some of these hinges are still in place on the stable doors of the barn, now known as the Gerher farm, at the time of the settling of this section, the woods still roamed with ferocious wolves. Mr. Arner was the proud possessor of a small flock of sheep, which he left in the care of his sons. On a Sunday morning when he and his wife walked to Zions Church; upon their return a band of wolves had killed every sheep. He then gathered up the fragments of the sheep and placed them under a large tree and took his muzzle loading gun and perch-

ed himself in the branches of the tree; awaiting the return of the wolves to devour the balance of the sheep. At dusk of day, they returned. He fired from his perch and killed one of the wolves; he then started to reload his gun, when accidentally the ram rod fell out of his hand to the ground and the wolves howling and raging to get at him, he was left helpless in the tree all night, listening to the howling shrieks of the wolves trying to get him and in their anger they gnawed a considerable portion of the tree during the night. Mr. Arner and other early settlers of this section made occasional trips to Phila. to trade their furs, hides, etc., for needed articles for the farm and household. The people had at all times to be on the lookout for prowling Indians. These Indians would sometimes wander through this section, and seek rest in barns of early settlers. Such an incident is related, when Hannah, daughter of Michael Hoppes, went into the barn to get hay for the cattle. She crawled upon the hay mow and stepped upon a place where it seemed as if the hay were very loose. Out jumped an Indian who was seeking a sleeping place. She, being very much frightened, shrieked and ran for the house. The Indian ran from the barn into the woods and escaped.

Another of the early settlers in what is West Penn Township was John Michael Hoppes, who came to this part from Germany about 1740. The Indians in one of their raids killed Mr. Hoppes and two of his sons. The remaining two sons became somewhat disgusted with their ill fate and one left and moved to Virginia. The other son, John Michael Hoppes, however, remained and when the Revolutionary War broke out, he took up arms in defense of colonies. After

the war he returned and became a prosperous farmer, receiving a land grant from the government for his services of 150 acres. Mr. Hoppes was born Jan. 12, 1753 and died July 30, 1833. He is buried in the cemetery adjoining Zion's Church with his wife Catherine. He being the only Revolutionary War soldier buried in this cemetery. The farmer, John Michael Hoppes, is mentioned in connection with the history of Zion's Church.

Another family of early settlers were the Balliets who settled in the eastern section of what is now West Penn Township. George Balliet, who came from France, was the first of the Balliet family. An interesting episode is related which happened to the east of West Penn at or near Lehighton. Benj. Balliet, a direct descendent of George Balliet, who was born in 1809, attended some kind of a gathering at Lehighton on the 25th day of May 1833. At this time, hatred existed between different sects of people as to their religious beliefs, and Mr. Balliet was attacked by an unknown assailant, and died from the inflicted wounds May 30th, 5 days later. He is buried in the cemetery adjoining Zion's Church, and the Tombstone bears the inscription in German, as to how he met his death at the age of 24 years.

Andreas Settled In 1700

The southeastern part of West Penn Township, now known as the village of Andreas, was settled in the early 1700.

Records available through a Patent Deed, possessed by Orven Andreas, shows that the first land was settled by Peter Steigerwalt and Christiana, his wife.

On Dec. 14th, 1781, through the Patent Rolls Office, located at Philadelphia, they were granted a

Patent Deed of the first land settled in the vicinity which is now known as Andreas. This transaction is recorded in Patent Book, No. 1, Page 280 and said grant contains one hundred twenty-one acres and one hundred forty-nine perches, strict measure.

The above mentioned land was granted by Indenture to a son, Jos. Steigerwalt, on June 7, 1838 and then to a son-in-law of Jos. Steigerwalt, Adam Andreas, on April 1, 1868, and to a son of Adam, O. A. Andreas, on April 1, 1900, and then to his son Raymond Andreas in 1924, in whose possession same is at the present time.

Adam Zehner, born in Germany 1726, came to America in 1746 at the age of 20. He worked his way through the wilderness from the vicinity of the New England States, until reaching the Blue Mountains-Linnville, Lehigh County. At this place, he, with two other men (servants) cleared some land and built his first log cabin and later procured deeds for various tracts of land. Moving still farther on, he came to Schuylkill County, West Penn Twp., where he cleared more land in the lower part of what is now called "Mush Valley." Still moving on until he reached the little Schuylkill River, four miles south of Tamaqua, which is today called Zehner's on the P. & R. railroad. Here he erected the first saw and grist mill in 1763.

This was his first business venture, and from a humble beginning, he was considered, later on, as one of the most intelligent and daring citizens of the community. He, and his men had numerous encounters with the Indians, who feared him so much that he (Zehner) was bullet proof.

Adam Zehner and his wife, A. Mertz, had 15 children. He died at the age of 83, while his wife died at 77 years of age. His third son, David then took up his father's business. His wife was Elizabeth Heinrich. They had 13 children. His successor was John D. Zehner. His wife was Elizabeth Smith, daughter of a colonel in the Revolutionary War. He was again succeeded by David 1830-1897 wife, Esther Kistler, 1835-1902. They had 11 children. David Zehner was a director of the First National Bank, Tamaqua, President of the Farmers Fire Insurance Co. They held meetings at Landingville near Orwigsburg.

INDUSTRIES

One of the old landmarks of West Penn Township is an old mill near Dorset, Pa. The mill is known as Staudt's Mill. The original mill was built in 1782. This was built of logs. It was owned by Heinrich Miller. This was a flour mill until 1885. Different people across the Blue Mountain brought their grain to this mill, and in this way a road known as Miller's Road was formed across the mountain. The grain was often brought on horseback. The walls of the house where Miller's family lived can still be seen. This house was built of stones and was one and a half story high. The house had a trap door in the floor, which had been placed there to escape from the Indians.

This mill was rebuilt in 1885. Some of the wood of the original mill was used for the floor of the mill, which is now standing known as the Staudt's Mill. The mill has been used as a feed mill from 1885 to the present time.

A Flour Mill

A flour mill approximately 200 years old may still be seen in Mahoning Valley. The building, a stone

structure, of which very few still remain of its kind, makes known to visitors its age. It was built by a man named Michael Hoppes, and also operated by Gedion Houser and Oscar Houser. Although the mill today is inactive, the house adjoining it is occupied by descendants of the late Michael Hoppes.

Another mill, also a stone structure, situated along the "back" road leading towards Lehighton, a short distance east of Mantzville church, would have quite an autobiography to tell were it able to talk. It was built about 1845 by John Hoppes. It is said at one time, many many years ago, a powder mill stood close to this mill, but was destroyed by an explosion. As near as the writer was able to find out the following at one time or other operated this mill: John Hoppes, David Hoppes, Wallace Hoppes, Gedion Houser. John Labenback, Richard Kuhns, Wm. Kistler (13 years), David Heintzelman, and at the present time, Calvin Hamm.

About one-half mile west of Mantzville stands an old wooden structure erected by Amos Gerber. It was at one time a bone mill, flour mill and saw mill. This mill was at one time operated by David Gerber and Emery Gerber.

A hotel built by Elias Wehr about 100 years ago today serves as an apartment house. It houses four families in the village of Mantzville. This hotel was sold to Bill Mantz, and he built a new one across the street. The following at one time operated the hotel: Chas. Mantz, Chas. Reicheldeiffer, Samuel Loses, Henry Kaiser, Wm. Krell, John Miller.

Today it is no longer a hotel, but a home for old people. It is known as St. Michael's Home.

About 1½ miles east of Leibysville lived a man by the name of

Francis Schrum. He was an immigrant direct from Germany. His early line of work was making pottery for all the people in the community.

Another industry in this same section was the making of bricks. These bricks were made by Nathan Hunsicker, Sr. Some of the bricks he made, were used to build several homes, which may still be seen today. The Evangelical Church in Lizard Creek Valley is built with the bricks made by this man. The clay to make these bricks for this church was secured in a nearby meadow.

Shoemaking

Another industry in these pioneer days was shoe making. People in these days took leather of their own that they had tanned at local tanneries. The following were some of the early shoemakers: Jacob Leiby, Nathan Leiby, Solomon Schaeffer, Daniel Schaeffer.

Weaving

At this time most people raised flax. This flax was spun in the homes, and afterwards taken to a weaver. Here the material for the clothing was made. David Hoppes was one of the weavers in West Penn. Winter clothing was made of this material, and lined with wool.

Zehner's Mill which is one mile west of South Tamaqua, Pa., situated by the little Schuylkill River, near the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad today, erected the first saw and grist mill in 1763. The old mill was burned down during the year 1876, but was rebuilt in 1877 and is still standing but not operative, merely a land mark of a once thriving business center. It was a grist mill and later a flour mill.

Early Mail Service

The first mail carrier was Joseph Gerber. He carried the mail from Tamaqua to Jacksonville. There

was one delivery a week. On his way from Tamaqua to Jacksonville the carrier left the mail at stores, or public meeting places. At first the mail was left at Bill Smith's store where Jas. Kershner's hotel now stands, at Leibysville. Later a post office was started at the home of Thos. Hess about a fourth of a mile north of Leibysville. There were no deliveries to private homes until some years later. There now are post offices at New Ringgold, Snyders, and Andreas, Pa. At the time of these early deliveries of the mail the postage was three cents a letter.

Paint Mine

A Paint Mine was found about a mile from Snyders. This was found by Elias Schraer, in 1895. This mine was not opened until 1919 for the mining of paint ore. The mine was leased and opened by C. K. Williams of Easton. This ore is of the quality that is used in the manufacture of red paint. The total depth of this mine is 142 feet. In it are 3 gangways, or lifts. The first lift is 82 feet. The second is 110 feet. Two of these gangways are over 500 feet long. The paint was hoisted up by the use of machinery and buckets. Then this was dumped into small cars, and transferred to railroad cars for shipping. There was between 3,000 and 4,000 tons of paint taken out, and shipped from this mine by the way of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Co. They discontinued working this mine in 1923 on account of the cost of mining and shipping from this point. There were about six miners working in this mine until it was closed. It was partly on the property of Clarence Wertman, and the vein extended into the estate of John Staudt. The estate of John Staudt where vein extended was afterward bought by C. K. Williams of Easton.

CHURCHES

Zion's Church

According to Rev. H. A. Weller's History of Frieden's Church by the little Schuylkill, Zion's Church sprung from this Frieden's Congregation.

Dissatisfied with the moral character of their school-master who also served as pastor, for want of an ordained minister, this contingent withdrew in 1770 and established a new community to the east in what is now West Penn Twp.

On June 2, 1768, John Michael Hoppes entered an application in the land office of Pennsylvania No. 3369 for one hundred acres and originally surveyed and appropriated for the sole use of the United Congregation of Lutherans and German Reformed. On January 21, 1773 A. D., the right, title, claim and demand was conveyed unto George Schellhamer in trust for the use of said United Congregation. January 27, 1818, the tract was resurveyed at the request of Jacob Zeigler and Daniel Leiby, Elders and Trustees of said congregations.

Again on the 15th and 16th days of September, 1846, the same was surveyed and lines carefully and accurately drawn at the request of Jacob Zeigler and John Zuber, Trustees and the stone corners marked with "1846", and made permanent by John L. Pulsifer. On Nov. 13, 1871, the Surveyor General's Office at Harrisburg billed Gideon Steigerwalt and Daniel Ohl with a calculation in the case of application of Michael Hoppes, dated the 2nd day of June 1768, that the amount required to patent and secure a deed for ninety-three acres and sixty-two perches was \$105.25, of this amount \$90.75 being the purchase money and interest accrued thereon and \$14.50 for fees and ask-

ed them to remit this amount so that the case may be disposed of.

On Dec. 4, following, the above amount was paid by Gideon Steigerwalt and Daniel Ohl, Trustees of the aforesaid congregations, and a deed was granted by the Commonwealth of Penna. to Gideon Steigerwalt and Daniel Ohl, Trustees.

In the year 1784, a log building appeared on the site, now occupied by the janitor's house, which was used by the congregations for religious services, and for a parochial school. The first church building was also built of logs, and was erected in 1790. The second and stone edifice was built in 1846, the cornerstone of which was laid on Ascension Day, May 21, 1846. At the same time, a constitution was adopted for the Union Church, which was in force until Aug. 30, 1914, when a new code of by-laws was adopted by vote of both congregations, which were amended on Nov. 14, 1914. These by-laws were put into effect Jan. 1, 1915, when the following officers were installed into office: Lutheran Congregation—Rev. Wm. H. Strauss, Minister; W. A. Schaeffer, Elder; Lewis Steigerwalt, David Steigerwalt, Trustees; Wellis Steigerwalt, A. O. Schaeffer, George Bolhuger, Deacons; H. C. Nester, Wm. H. Hoppes, C. E. Nothstein, A. O. Schaeffer, Treas.; J. A. Eherse, Secy.

Reformed Congregation: Rev. H. D. Houtz, Minister; A. S. Zimmerman, Elder; O. A. Hunsicker, J. C. Brown, Trustees; Alfred Zimmerman, Frank Gerber, Wm. H. Schaeffer, Deacons; Alvin A. Hill, A. A. Knepper, E. E. Gerber, J. C. Brown, Treas.; W. J. Leeser, Secy.

During the summer of 1919, the building was extensively remodeled and modernized at a cost of \$18,000. The dedicatory services

were held on Oct. 11th and 12th, 1919. On Feb. 10, 1927, the interior of the church was destroyed by fire, and during the summer the entire interior was remodeled in accordance with its previous design, at a cost of approximately \$15,000 and dedicated in October of the same year. The following are the pastors that served Zion's Church so far as records are available:

Lutheran Congregation: Rev. Schelhart; Daniel Schaeffer, 1807-1835; Rev. Zuber, Supply, 1813-1814; Rev. Gisenhainer, Supply; Rev. Harpel, Supply; Rev. E. A. Bauer, 1842-1871; Rev. Wm. H. Strauss, 1872-1918; Rev. Wirt A. Dries, 1919-1927; Rev. Arthur P. Snyder, 1928-.

Reformed Congregation: Rev. Peter Miller, 1804; F. W. Vandersloot, 1804-1811; Philip Moyer, Supply, 1811; Jacob Diffenbach, 1812-1815; Rev. John Zulich, 1816-1875; Rev. Abraham Bartholomew, 1875-1894; Rev. Joseph Schlappich, Supply; Rev. Calvin E. Bartholomew, Supply; Rev. Thos. N. Reber, 1895-1911; Rev. Harry D. Houtz, 1912-1925; Rev. Franklin D. Slifer, 1926-1929; Rev. Wilbur W. Moyer, 1930-.

Evangelical Church

The first Evangelical Church was built at Mantz's in 1857 on ground donated by John Kistler. It was a two story frame structure located east of the present church.

The basement of the church was used for a pay school. The first term of the public school was also held there while the school house was constructed.

In 1886, the present brick structure was erected. Nathan Hunsicker, a member of the congregation set up a brickyard on his farm one-half mile to the east of the church, and there manufactured the bricks for the new church.

Among the first ministers of the

church were: Rev. Neitz and Rev. Moses Dissinger.

About the year 1857, a small Baptist Congregation erected a church south of the Evangelical Church. After forty years, the leaders of the church having emigrated West, the other members of the church joined the Evangelical congregation and the church came into disuse. Later the building burned, being ignited by a spark from a locomotive on the Lehigh Valley Railroad which passed close by.

St. Peter's Church

On a commanding eminence overlooking the Mahoning Valley, less than a mile to the north of Mantzville, stands St. Peter's Lutheran and Reformed Church.

The original location, consisting of one acre and fifty-nine perches, was donated by Henry Mantz and his wife Hannah. The congregations were organized and the first church—a frame structure painted in a metallic reddish brown—was erected in 1845. The building committee consisted of: David Zehner, Adam Dreisbach, and Jonathan Gerber. The cornerstone was laid on June 22nd of that same year, at which time a constitution containing twelve articles was adopted. This building faced the west.

The first Reformed Holy Communion was administered on Nov. 1, 1846, and the second on May 21st, 1847. The first Lutheran Holy Communion was celebrated on May 9th, 1847.

In 1881 the second building, facing the south, known as "the White Church," was erected on the original site, with a steeple over the main entrance. The building committee consisted of: John Mantz, Wm. Mantz, Elias Beltz, and Wm. D. Zehner. The cornerstone was laid with appropriate services on June 5th of that year.

A constitution consisting of a preamble and twenty-one articles was also adopted at this time. On March 27th, 1882, a Union Charter was granted by the Schuylkill County Court. The Church Bell was installed about 1884. In 1893 one hundred and three perches of additional land was purchased from Elias Wehr.

In 1906 the reed organ was replaced by the pipe organ, one-third of the cost being a donation from Andrew Carnegie.

On June 3rd, 1928, the congregations jointly and favorably voted to remodel the church. The exterior was veneered with buff brick and a tower was built on the northwest corner. The entire church was modernized. The basement was partitioned for Church School work, and a stage, kitchen, dressing room and retiring rooms were provided. The church auditorium was refurnished with new pews, pulpit and chancel furniture. Cathedral glass windows, electric light fixtures, hot water heating and electric ventilating systems were installed, making it one of the most beautiful and modern rural churches. The rededication services were conducted on May 19th, 1929.

Extensive galleries appeared in both buildings but with the remodeling of the second edifice and the transfer of the stairway into the tower, this extra seating device was eliminated.

Regular Reformed pastors of St. Peter's: Rev. Christian Geo. Eichenberg, June 24th, 1849 until about 1880. He is buried in St. Peter's Cemetery; Rev. Abraham Bartholomew, 1880 until his resignation due to ill health, Aug. 13th, 1894; Rev. Thos. Nevin Reber, June 1895 until his death, Sept. 23rd, 1911; Rev. Harry Daniel Houtz, May 26th, 1912 to Nov. 26th, 1925; Rev. Franklin D. Slifer, May 23rd, 1926, to Oct. 31,

1929, and Rev. Wilbur W. Moyer, Feb. 1, 1930 to date.

Regular Lutheran pastors of St. Peter's: Rev. E. August Bauer, 1847 until spring of 1872; Rev. Wm. H. Strauss, summer of 1872 to 1918; Rev. Wirt A. Dries, 1919 to 1927, Rev. Arthur P. Snyder, 1928 to present date.

The White Meeting House

Along the road leading from Snyders to New Ringgold about one and one-fourth miles from Snyders, on the right side of the road, the first house west of the meeting house was built by a man named Andy Kleckner.

The reason the writer is referring to this is because Andy Kleckner had very much to do with the building of the White Meeting House.

Before he lived in this house along the road he lived in a house which stood in a southeast direction in the meadow near the creek. When the new home was finished he moved in it and gave the old home in the meadow for a church.

The old Meeting House was the old house with the partitions taken out, so that it was in one large room on the first floor. With a table for a Pulpit and benches for seats. Many good meetings were held. This old meeting house was pulled down a few years ago.

The ground on which the new meeting house and part of the cemetery was given by Andy Kleckner.

When the stone foundation was made a floor was laid and temporary seats were placed. Here the services were held for the dedication of the corner stone. During the service they took bars and placed the corner stone in its place. It bore the date May 18, 1882.

To many people the church is known by this name, The White Meeting House, but to the brethren it is known as The Church of God.

ORGANIZATIONS

Pocahontas Council No. 406 Order of Independent Americans, was organized September 1898, and were then known as the Jr. Order of United American Mechanics. The following were the first officers: Councilor, Alvin Schaeffer; Recording Secy., Fred Walter; Financial Secy., Leon Walter; Treas., T. S. Balliet. On August 16, 1904, they left the parent organization and became the O. of I. A. The meeting of this organization was held in the hall erected by the Farmers Alliance, and later acquired by T. S. Balliet, who was also a farm implement dealer. The hall was destroyed by fire in the early '20's when the lodge lost all their paraphernalia. In 1925, they acquired the homestead of John Koch, at Clamtown, and rebuilt the same for a lodge hall, where they have prospered and grown. This council organized with 27 charter members, and now has a membership of 170. T. S. Balliet was elected treasurer when organized, and has served in that office continuously, up to the present time. The present officers are: Councilor, Melvin Gerber; Vice Councilor, Paul Schellhammer; Recording Secy., F. C. Gerber; Financial Secy., D. O. Eberts; A. R. Secy., Loyd Gerber; Chaplain, Vernon Nelson. Trustees: J. A. Eberts, Howard Shoemaker, and Oscar Gerber; Cond., Herman Steigerwalt.

Washington Camp No. 132, P. O. S. of A. was instituted May 18, 1891, with 33 charter members. The first officers were: Past President, David Zeigler; Pres., A. C. Henry; Vice Pres., H. C. Kemp; R. S., James Gouldner; F. S., A. C. Zeigler; Treas., Frank Schwartz. They organized in Union Hall, in the North Penn Hall, now known as the Exchange Hotel. Their present membership is 67, and they are meeting

in the O. of I. A. Hall at Clamtown. The present officers are: Pres., J. A. Eberts; V. P., H. R. Shoemaker; F. S., Lester Stalneck; R. S., Ulysses Balliet; Treas., Clarence Breiner; M. of F., Lewis Clouse.

Blue Ridge Lodge No. 1153, I. O. O. F., was organized at Andreas, May 22, 1908, with 23 charter members, in Weaver's Hall, which was later destroyed by fire when they lost all their records. They then erected a fine hall at Andreas, where they have 150 members at present. The present officers are: Charles Zehner; Noble Grand, Ed. Hill; Vice Grand, C. D. Weaver; and Treas., Noah Loch. The Secretary, Mr. Weaver, has held that office since the organization of this lodge.

Washington Camp No. 615, P. O. S. of A., was organized at Andreas on September 17, 1891, with 29 charter members in Weaver's Hall. They are now in the I. O. O. F. Hall at Andreas, and have 125 members. The present officers are: Harlan Loch; Pres., Stanley Steigerwalt; Vice Pres., Pierce Hershner; R. S., Wallace Steigerwalt; F. S. & Treas., C. D. Weaver.

EARLY EDUCATION

Early education in West Penn was conducted in a crude way; as West Penn was one of the latest districts to accept the provisions of 1834, although Schuylkill County had accepted it a long time before. In 1854, Jonathan K. Krewson of Minersville became the first Superintendent of Schools of Schuylkill County. He served for nine years and retired in 1863. In one of his reports he stated that West Penn on several occasions tried to put the free schools into operation but failed. However, in 1870, they succeeded, and West Penn adopted the provision of 1834.

Some of the early schools before 1870 were small and low. They were built of rough, unpeeled logs, and roofed with pine slabs laid with the round side up, and fastened to the rafters with poles tied on with withes. The floor was made of unplaned planks laid loosely upon the joists. Opposite the door was an opening for one window, and usually a window was placed on each side of the room. The schoolroom usually had three windows.

The chimney occupied a large amount of space as the school room was heated with a large fireplace. The fireplace was built of stones, laid with mortar made of clay, and straw. During a heavy rain some of this plaster would fall, and leave its stains upon the floor. The logs burned in the fireplace were furnished by the parents of the pupils who attended school. The farmers of the neighborhood or community usually built the schools; also furnishing the material needed to build a school house of that time.

The furniture in these schools was very scarce compared to our schools of today. They usually had four benches. Two on each side of the room. Along the wall on each side was a table like desk, which extended through the entire room. A bench was placed on each side of this table like desk. At these desks the pupils sat opposite each other, the girls sat at one table, and the boys at the other table. The teacher's desk was a small table. It usually was placed at the lower end of the two long tables.

A row of wooden pegs were driven into the wall, and on these the children hung their caps and cloaks. There was nothing more in the room—no blackboard, no chair, no maps. The door swung on wooden hinges, and was fastened with a long wooden latch. If the door was planed smooth, it was used as a

blackboard. With bits of charcoal the teacher wrote the lesson on the door.

Studies Limited

In the earlier schools, reading was the only subject regularly taught. This was usually taught in German. Out of 24 pupils, only three had books when school started. The children were first taught to say the alphabet in German. The teacher often took old newspapers, handbills, and posters, smoothed them out carefully and cut them into many parts. Each piece served a child for a reader and speller. The children were very careful with these scraps, and knew their lessons well.

The pupils who had trouble in getting their letters were given a pin, and told to punch a hole over every letter O they could find. Then another letter was taken until they finally knew the alphabet. When the pupils knew the alphabet, they were given long words to spell. By this time they could read the German A. B. C. Book, and were given another reading book. The older pupils studied the testament, and used it as a reader. The testament was printed in German.

In arithmetic, they were taught addition and subtraction, but very little beyond that.

The pupils had to buy their own books, slates, pencils and paper. The parents usually purchased the school supplies for their children in Bensinger's Book Store in Tamaqua. This store was located at corner Broad and Hunter Sts. in Tamaqua.

The books usually cost from (\$.25) twenty-five to (\$.35) thirty-five cents each. Very little writing paper was used. The writing that was done was put on slates. Children that were too poor to buy pencils to write on their slates, used soft stones found in the brook.

Sometimes a poor boy or girl used a piece of thin board that was scraped smooth, and wrote on it with charcoal. When he was finished with the lesson he would scrape it off.

The older pupils were given copy writing. This was written on sheets of paper, which was the only paper used. The teacher wrote words on this paper in his best writing, and the children filled this paper. These sheets were saved and sewed together. At the end of the school term, the pupils had a neat little copy book. The pupils had to furnish their own paper.

After a pupil could read the Bible fairly well he was taught the English language; that is to read and write. From that time on, he was taught to read, write, and spell in English.

Teachers Poorly Prepared

The teachers had no training along their line of work, as teachers of today have. No teacher went to high school or college to teach in West Penn Twp. The people usually chose a man of the community whom they thought best qualified for the work, and who knew a little more in reading, spelling, and arithmetic than the rest of the people in the community. The modern philosophy of kindness to children in the school operated far less than a belief in the efficiency of the rod.

The teacher's salary seldom amounted to more than (\$10) ten or (\$12) twelve dollars a month and often not more than half of these amounts. The teacher's salary usually depended on the amount of pupils he had, as each pupil paid 2 or 3 cents a day. The teacher had no board to pay, as he boarded around with the pupils' parents. The salaries of these early teachers were what might be expected, con-

sidering the poor quality of teaching. Schools were open only from 3 to 4 months in the year. Some of these earlier schools in the township were Balliet's School, Sassaman's School, Guildner's School, Reinhart's School located in Summerdale and a pay school was located near the present Hunsicker's School.

Schools were added from time to time at various places. These schools were slightly improved toward the earlier schools.

Schools From 1870 to 1934

Although public schools were opened in Pennsylvania in 1834, it was not until 1871, just 37 years later that West Penn Twp. opened her first free schools.

Beginning the year 1869 the following six men: David Osenbach, J. S. Longanacre, D. A. Gerber, John Ohl, David Zehner and Wm. Troxel, acting as school directors, began purchasing sites and erecting frame buildings to be used as free schools.

The amount of land bought for each school site ranged from ten and one-half (10½) perches to thirty (30) perches. Prices for school sites ranged from two dollars and eleven cents (\$2.11) to fifty dollars (\$50).

The deed for Reynold's School is made subject to a clause, stating the privilege of using the school house in which to preach the Gospel on the Sabbath Day by ministers of the Lutheran, Evangelical and German Reformed Churches.

Owing to this clause, this building was constructed along church lines. It is much higher than the other schools, has a cellar, a belfry and is equipped with electric lights.

Sunday School and Services by the Lutheran and Reformed ministers are held here regularly.

Twelve schools were opened the first year. Then by 1900, five more were opened totaling seventeen one room schools in West Penn Twp.

All schools were wooden structures. And with the exception of Summerdale, which was destroyed by fire, and rebuilt the following year, the original buildings are still in use.

The first schools erected were painted red, the later ones white.

The interior of the building contained black boards of wood. Two long benches on both sides served as seats, with long desks arranged in front. These faced the center of the room. Logs about two feet in length were used for heating. A table served as a desk for the teacher. Three windows on each side and two in the front of the building furnished light. Hooks for clothing were placed between the windows. The outside door opened directly into the class room. Most of the buildings had no cellars. Wood and later coal were stored in sheds on the school ground. The school term opened in October and continued for five months. The enrollment was large, ranging from forty-five pupils to fifty-five. The average attendance was low in comparison to the enrollment. In later years, the enrollment increased considerably, some schools having as high as seventy-five or eighty in daily attendance. Young men and women, some twenty and older, attended during the winter months.

Teachers were examined by the county superintendent, in a room of the old Mantzville Hotel. The school directors always attended this examination. All applicants were given their marks at the close of the examination and directors then made their choice of teachers. Professional training did not rank as high as physical ability in the early school days of West Penn Twp.

Only male teachers were eligible to teach for the first few years after public schools opened. The salary was twenty-five a month. Boarding teachers were charged nine dollars a month for board.

West Penn Twp. has never been able to furnish enough of their own teachers to supply the schools.

Each school had a very limited supply of books.

Children were urged to bring books from home.

Even German books were taught, providing the teacher understood enough of the language to teach it.

German speaking teachers were given a preference here as some parents' objection to public schools was the fact that their children would be taught English and in time would forget how to speak German. The seventeen public schools now open in West Penn Twp. are: Reynold's, Chain, Zehner's, Steigerwalt's, Hunsicker's, North Penn, Wash Creek, St. Peter's, Zimmerman's, Troxell's, Bolick's, Andreas, Longanacre, and Kistler, Dorset, Zion's, Summerdale and Sassaman's.

Mr. Samuel Heisler, of Lewis-town was one of the very early teachers in West Penn Twp., having taught in Steigerwalt's School sixty-one years ago.

Mr. Heisler is eighty-two years old, and the only teacher living who taught here in that year.

He is quite active; enjoys very fine health, has an excellent memory, and is greatly interested in every phase of education.

Mr. Heisler enjoyed relating his early teaching experience. He was an early believer of these lines:

Place one bit of useful knowledge
on another tiny mite,
Keep on adding, time will make
them,

Shine with wisdom's burning light,

Each small act of perseverance
Nerves you to some greater
deed:

From one little grain of fore-
thought,

Often grand results proceed.

The schools of West Penn Twp.
are open for a term of eight months
at the present time.

There are five hundred and
twenty-five children enrolled in the
seventeen schools.

Some schools have an enrollment
as low as eleven; others averag-
ing forty, and forty-five.

The teachers are paid a salary
of one hundred a month.

The majority of teachers are
graduates of a state teachers col-
lege.

This year the teachers have or-
ganized a Teachers Association and
have held four meetings.

Consolidation has been under dis-
cussion for a number of years.

Several plans have been submit-
ted, whereby our one room build-
ings could be closed and a modern
school including all grades and
junior high would adequately meet
the demands of progressive educa-
tion necessary to compete with
other rural districts.

Up to the present time, no deci-
sive action has been taken.

During the past year 1933-1934, a
Parent Teacher Association has been
organized; with a membership of
one hundred ten parents and some
teachers.

Through the efforts of the P. T.
A., we will have a circulating li-
brary by the opening of our next
school term.

Access to this library will great-
ly aid children in motivating a
keener interest in their lessons.
Also cultivating the reading habit,
which is almost indispensable to a
rural district. We can only hope
that the schools of West Penn Twp.
hold in store for her childrens' fu-

ture education progressive plans
that will give them some of the
educational advantages enjoyed by
country children elsewhere.

Railways of West Penn

In addition to its approximate one
hundred eighty miles of highways
and by-ways, West Penn also boasts
of about twenty-two miles of rail-
ways.

The Lehigh Valley Co.'s sector
consisting of seven miles (in West
Penn Township) was built in 1890.
It is a portion of the line connecting
Pottsville and Bowmanstown. This
road was originally built for the
purpose of shipping coal, but at one
time it served as a direct passenger
and express route to Philadelphia.
Lately the road has been used for
express, mail, and local freight ser-
vice. Two trains are run daily, one
westbound and one eastbound. The
control station for West Penn Twp.
is located at Andreas where a sta-
tion agent is employed to handle
business there and at intermediate
stations, located at Millers, Long-
acres, West Penn, Dorset, and Kep-
ner.

The fifteen miles of Lehigh and
New England road was built in
1911-13 to connect the Panther
Creek Valley with Pen Argyl, Pa.,
for the purpose of transporting
coal. A station agent is employed
at Andreas to handle business there
and at Snyders and Chain.

There are some peculiarities about
the naming of the two of the above
mentioned stations.

At Andreas there are two general
stores, one is on the east side and
the other on the west side of a small
stream that flows through the town.
When the Land N. E. Railway was
built the store on the east side
was owned by one Andreas and that
on the west bank by a Sitler. These
people were members of opposing
political parties, and because of this,

when party rule would change, the post office would be changed from one store to another, at the same time the name of the post office would change from Sitler to Andreas and vice versa. Because of the confusion that this caused, the railway company decided to place

a permanent name on their station and selected the name Andreas.

It is said by some people that the station at Dorset was so named because while the railroad was being built the people nearby sat at the doors of their houses to watch the men work.



Washington Twp. Once Had Many Mills

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* October 31, 1934)

Washington Township was carved out of Wayne and Pine Grove Townships, but the earliest settlement in what is now Washington Township dates back to a time when a man by the name of Philip Snell settled on a tract of land of about 300 acres in the northeastern section of the Township. On May 14, 1768 Philip Snell sold this tract to Christopher Crawford. In 1795 Christopher Crawford sold it to John Brown, a great, great, great grandfather of the present owner Charles H. Brown, who bought it from his father, Christian Brown in 1913. Other important early settlers of the township was a family by the name of Jacoby. One of the Jacoby's, while cutting wood at the very door of his house, was attacked by the Indians and beheaded. This section of the township seems to have been a favorable resort for Indians for in later years they seem to have retraced this territory. As late as the early part of the 19th century a girl was seen in the forest by children on an errand to some neighbor's. Whether this girl was alone or accompanied by other Indians is a mystery as much as where she went. Some of the other early settlers of the northern section of the township were Michael Fahner, who received a warrant in 1765 to a tract of 331 acres; and Daniel Mullin and John Conrad to another tract. Part of this tract is now owned by Uriah Rhein, purchased in 1933. Further to the west on the Swatara at a very early date a grist mill was built by Henry Heil. This

mill was subsequently owned by Charles Maurer, Charles Roeder and finally by John Roeder. This mill was destroyed by fire in 1933.

The Swatara seems to have been very important for its water power, which is proven by the numerous saw mills and grist mills for which it provided power.

In the southern section of the township the first grist mill was built by John Adam Brown, a native of Germany, in 1772, on the Little Swatara. This mill is still in operation and is operated by a great, great, grandson, John E. Brown.

Further west of this mill there was another mill built and operated by Mr. Reeser, then by Mr. Bixler and later by Henry Strauch, who built a new mill in 1872. Mr. Strauch came from Pottsville and was a breaker-builder by trade. Henry Strauch sold the mill to Henry W. Strauch, a native of Wayne Township. All of these early millers lived in the mill.

The section known as Rock had a tannery, built by a Mr. Boy in 1790. This tannery was in operation but a few years when it was abandoned.

Just north of the geographical center of the township is the valley known as DeTurksville, formerly called Silliman. This valley had the first tavern in the township kept by Solomon Christ, about the year 1827.

Through this valley the old-fashioned stage coaches made regular trips between Pine Grove and Sch. Haven.

Among early settlers, prior to 1790, were Philip Zerbe, a Mr. Tebbish, Nicholas Shuck, Adam Kalbach, Geo. Kremer, Wm. Kremer, Peter Weaver, Peter Paffenberger, Nicholas Paffenberger, Henry Appel, Michael Bressler, Paul Lengel and the Gebert, Diehl, Boyer, Bretzins, Kerschner, Wagner, Bilger, and Werner families.

In 1856, when Washington Township was formed, it had a population of 1313; natives 1301, foreigners 12, white 1307, colored 6. The present population (1930) is 1252.

Early Religious Gatherings

The early religious gatherings in the northern part of the township were held in a spring house, just about 100 yards northwest of where the grist mill stood at Roedersville. The quarters soon became inadequate so that the necessity of a church building was realized.

The first church in this section of the township was built by Joshua Strauphauer of the Brethren Faith commonly called the Dunkards at a very early date. He also was the first preacher, succeeded by George Smith, followed by Michael Halde- man, Daniel Kutz, and at present the pulpit is occupied by Rev. Elias Morgan.

Hetzel's Church

Salem's (Hetzel's) Church, the oldest place of worship within the boundaries of Washington Town- ship, had its beginning in 1783, when a Lutheran Congregation was or- ganized there. For several years prior to this the settlers had held religious services at the various homes. The land, a tract of about fifty acres, was given by the state, as a grant for church and school purposes.

Peter Hetzel taught school in the first church building, and when no minister was available, he read ser- mons and conducted other religious

services. The first ministers who served this congregation lived in Berks or Lebanon County and vis- ited this section and ministered to the spiritual needs of the people, coming at intervals of from four to six weeks.

The first minister of these people was Wm. Kurtz, who began his work here in 1783. He continued as pastor until his death in 1799.

The second church building was erected and was dedicated May 25, 1797, the ground for this building having been given by Peter Hetzel. The building was made of logs and weather-boarded. There was a bal- cony on three sides of the building.

The following ministers served as Lutheran pastors: Rev. Wm. Kurtz; Rev. Andrew Schurtz, 1799-1802; Rev. John Knoske, 1802-1811; Rev. Geo. Mennig, 1811-1833; Rev. Wm. Mennig, son of George Mennig, 1833- 1839; Rev. A. B. Gockelen, Rev. J. F. Haesbert, Rev. Benj. Sadler, Rev. Julius Evhart, 1839-1856; Rev. Elias S. Henry, 1865-1897; Rev. Herman F. Kroh, 1897-1911; Rev. Aaron H. Klick, 1912-1920; Rev. Ernest A. Webber, 1921-1925; Rev. M. M. Kipps, 1926-.

Reformed Ministers

In the early days of the nine- teenth century, settlers of the Re- formed faith arrived in this section and in 1822, the Lutheran congre- gation granted the privilege of holding services in the church. This continued until 1848, when a Re- formed congregation was organized and was granted equal rights with the Lutherans.

From 1848 to the present time this has been a Union Church.

The Reformed ministers who serv- ed this congregation were: Rev. John Gring, 1827-1870; Rev. Chris- tian Mutschler, 1870-1874; Rev. Eli E. Hiester, 1874-1877; Rev. B. S. Metzgar, 1880-1884; Rev. Geo. A. Sellers, 1885-1887; Rev. Dr. C. B.

Schneder, 1888-1891; Rev. David Schierer, 1891-1892; Rev. Dr. Elmer S. Noll, 1893-1902; Rev. S. Sidney Kohler, 1903-1907; Rev. Howard A. Althouse, 1907-1911; Rev. Dennis Sipple, 1914-1920; Rev. Chas. H. Brown, 1920-1926; Rev. Eneas B. Messner, 1926-.

The second church building becoming too small to accommodate the increasing number of members, a new edifice was erected in 1880. This edifice is beautifully located several hundred feet east of the second church.

Many changes and improvements have been made within the last twenty-five years. The combined membership is about 325.

A Sunday School was organized about sixty-five years ago. Mr. Thiel, a German, living nearby, was one of the leaders in this movement. For many years the Sunday School services were held only about half the year. Several years later a permanent organization was effected. Lewis Hummel, Moses W. Loy, and Jacob Faust being leaders at this time. The school has increased

steadily and a short time ago the Sunday School room was enlarged. The present superintendent, Miss Miriam V. Readinger, has served faithfully for the last five years. The school enrollment is 250.

Zion's Evangelical Church

Zion's Evangelical Church is located about one mile east of Rock Station. Traveling ministers of this denomination visited this section and held services at the home of John Manbeck, Sr., in the year 1831. Regular meetings were held until the year 1858, when a congregation was organized. A religious revival was conducted by Rev. Lewis Snyder at the home of William Schoener. A class of fourteen was instructed. William Schoener was chosen leader and Frank Reber, exhorter.

In 1862 the congregation built a church edifice on land given by John Manbeck, Sr.

A Sunday School was organized, Frank Reber serving as the first superintendent. Rev. J. H. Hoffman of Pine Grove, is the present pastor.

History of Pine Grove Township

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 1-15, 1934)

COMPILED BY WILLIAM H. SMITH

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Nathan Morgan, Richard Barr, Elias Berger, Hiram Schnoke, L. G. E. Felty, John Groh, Harrison Adams, Mrs. Frank Wenrich, Chas. Boyer, Wm. C. Umbenhauer, Rev. H. S. Dollman, Prof. J. M. Schrope, Asa Weimer, Wm. Fidler, John Merrell, Andrew Klick, Ottis Rehner, Harold Hummel, Wm. Hummel, Jacob Miller, Alfred Gilbert, L. F. McDonough, Prof. G. A. Behney, and Adam Koble.

The first surveys of land in Pinegrove Township were in the case of warrants granted to John, Richard and Thomas Penn, proprietaries. The tracts surveyed were contiguous and extended across the southern part of township into the townships of Washington and Wayne, and included the site of Pine Grove Borough.

The part which is now Pine Grove Township belonged to Lancaster County up to 1754, when Berks County was organized. Up to 1754, this section north of the Blue, or Kittatinny Mountains, was known as Blue Mountain Hollow. It was organized in 1771, from Bethel Township, Berks County.

Pine Grove Township was one of the original civil organizations, transferred from Berks County in 1811, when Schuylkill County came into existence. Berks County, at this time, created three townships north of the Blue Mountains, Pine Grove, Manheim, and Brunswich.

Pine Grove Township is located in the southwest corner of the county, and is bounded on the south by Berks County, on the west by Lebanon County, on the east by Washington Township, and on the north by Tremont Township. The settlement of this township began

about 1750, the earliest pioneers being Germans from Berks County, who settled near the base of the Blue Mountains, in the southern part of the township.

The first settlers were harassed by Indian depredations, and some forts, or block houses were built for protection against the Indians. Fort Henry, south of the Blue Mts., on the Pine Grove-Millersburg trail, was one of these.

Frederick Schnoke who came to settle in 1753, bought rights from a man by the name of Umrue for two bushels of wheat. Some of the earliest settlers in this township before the Revolutionary War were the Schnoke, Hetrick, Schwope, Schaefer, Bressler, Boyer, Zimmerman, Felty and Stein families. Some of these had left their wilderness homes for a time during the Revolution, but subsequently returned and occupied them. It is a record that when Frederick Schnoke, who had returned across the Blue Mountains for safety, came back after an absence of seven years, he found the saplings of young trees grown through the floor and roof of his home.

With the close of the war, settlers came more rapidly, and soon after that critical period in our national

history there was quite an accession to the previously sparse settlements. The families of Minich, Gebert and Beuchler were contemporary with the families previously mentioned, or came very soon after them. Other early established families, whose coming dates, practically from the close of the Revolution, were: August Brosius, John Weiss, Henry Souder, Jacob Heberling, John Heberling, Valentine Heberling, Jacob Smythe, Adam Kalbach, George Pressler, John Adams, George Berger, Baltzer Smith. Many descendants of these pioneers still live in the township, and many of the old homesteads are occupied by members of the posterity. The house built near the same place, after Frederick Schnoke's house was torn down, is now occupied by Raymond Schnoke, the sixth generation.

A Mr. Gistwite settled in the western part of the township, near Mifflin, now Suedburg, about 1756. While at work on his log cabin, he was murdered by the Indians.

George Felty settled near Suedburg as early as 1770. His descendants are numerous in the township. John Stein settled about two miles west from Pine Grove near 1760. His descendants are very numerous in the township. The old homestead was in possession of the Steins until recently. Bernhart Zimmerman settled in the southeast part of the township and many of his descendants reside in the township to this day. John Moyer came in 1790; Isaac Harvey about 1830, and Michael Wenrich still earlier. The names of many of the pioneers are irretrievably lost.

Two Keefers had located at Stanhope a few hundred yards west of the present schoolhouse where Allen Zimmerman lives at present. They were attacked by Indians and ran

up the back valley to where a man named Bressler had settled, now the home of George Schnoke. The Indians followed them and killed them. Bressler had heard the cries of these men and jumped on his horse and started across the Blue Mountains, and so escaped. A party of men who went to investigate found them, and having no picks or shovels buried them in the rocks.

A well authenticated tradition establishes the family of Mr. Everhard, consisting of four persons, on the site of Pine Grove, as early as 1755. During the Indian foray of this same year, the entire family was massacred, except one daughter aged about seven years. She was taken as a prisoner into Muskingum County, Ohio, where she lived as a member of an Indian family until the year 1763, when the Indians being defeated by General Bouquet, the white prisoners were liberated under the terms of the treaty. Miss Everhard was recognized by some of the old neighbors and subsequently married a Mr. Salada, of Berks County, and became the progenitress of a numerous and prominent posterity. Some of her descendants reside in Schuylkill County, while many are residents of Berks County, and the West. This tradition is verified by a complete record of the events here stated, carefully preserved in an old family Bible.

Early records indicate that this region never was a real camping place for Indians. The Delaware River to the East and the Susquehanna to the West afforded fine fishing places for the Indians and this may account for so few Indian atrocities in this vicinity.

The early settlers were employed mostly in lumbering which was the principal industry for many years.

The territory is now largely farming land, and many of the working-men are miners. The region was dotted with saw-mills which were built and now permitted to go to decay. It is believed that Baltzer Smith built the first one about 1780, on a branch of the Swatara, about one mile south of Pine Grove. These saw-mills had an upright saw that moved up and down, and were necessary as circular saws could not be used to saw these heavy logs.

A grist mill was built about 1782 on Swope's Creek, at the entrance to Swope's Valley. This was patronized by people thirty miles away. Another was soon built by John Schaefer on Swatara Creek near Suedburg, and soon afterward another on the present site of Zachariah Batdorf's, near North Pine Grove, by a man named Uhler.

A distillery was built about 1790 at North Pine Grove by a Mr. Swalm, who was scalded to death while working in it. About 1800 another was built by Peter Lehr on a farm later owned by John Felty. Baltzer Hautz, John Zimmerman and Jacob Stine also erected and operated distilleries.

Tavern Dates Back To 1790

A tavern, known as the Red Tavern, was opened as early as 1790 at North Pine Grove, by John and Solomon Albright, who were early settlers here. They were succeeded by Henry Conrad and he by Henry Zimmerman. It became a dwelling and in about 1858 it was burned. The Albrights also kept a store in a part of the building. Frederick Rudy kept a tavern in a log building which stood on the Brookside farm, near the present bridge, as early as 1785. He was succeeded by a Mr. Woods, who converted it into a store and it was afterward burned.

Jacob Kunkle, a native of Holland, located in what is now the present site of Pine Grove Borough in 1771. He laid claim to a large tract of land, which he subsequently purchased from John and Richard Penn. He later moved to a farm one mile south of Pine Grove, where he died in 1813. He is buried in the old cemetery opposite the St. Peter's Lutheran Church.

Kunkle built a powder mill at the entrance to Swope's Valley. The mill was blown up two or three times, but was rebuilt after each explosion. In all, it was operated more than a hundred years. One man is reported as being killed.

Furnished Powder For Bunker Hill

Some of the powder made here was used at the Battle of Bunker Hill. This powder was taken by a four-oxen team. It was to cross the Delaware River where Easton now is. The men in charge of the team stopped at a farm a short distance on this side. The farmer informed them that they had no chance of crossing as the bridge was guarded. He told them to stay overnight and he would find a way to get their powder safely across the river.

The farmer had fields on the other side of the river, and had been hauling manure across for several days, and being sure they would not stop him, he placed some powder in the wagon and loaded manure on top. He took it across and hid it on the other side, and making other similar trips finally got all the powder safely past the guards. The ox-team now passed over without any trouble, loaded up the powder on the other side and continued their trip for some distance, when they were met by American soldiers on horseback who took the powder to its destination.

Origin of Name

The grove of pines from which Pine Grove Township derived its name was not located near the present town of Pine Grove. This beautiful grove of trees grew in the valley on the south side of Mahantongo Mountains east of Klinger's Gap.

Three descriptions of this very beautiful grove of trees, all written before the War for Independence are still on record. One was by John Bartran, the famous botanist whose house and garden now form a public park in West Philadelphia. Another was by Lewis Evans, surveyor and map maker whose descriptions of early Pennsylvania are among the best of his time. The third was by Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg, (grandson of Conrad Weiser and brother of General Peter Muhlenberg), who became the first speaker of the National House of Representatives.

Lewis says: "We went down a very stony, steep descent to the Laurel Creek, a rivulet which falls into Kind Creek about eight miles lower down. Leaving this creek on the left hand, the path led us through a narrow pass between two mountains where grew the tallest white pines I ever saw. I will not hazard my judgment to what height I guessed them to be because it is so incredible."

Bartran described them as a grove of white pine, very lofty and so close that the sun could hardly shine through. Muhlenberg tells us that this grove was still standing when Pine Grove Township was organized in 1771.

When this new township was organized, it cut off from Bethel all the land north of the crest of the Blue Mountains, and the outstanding feature of the new township was this grove of white pines through which the Shamokin trail passed. So the new township was named Pine Grove Township. The

borough taken out of the heart of this township was then named after the township.

Henry Gensemer, son of George Gensemer, born Oct. 16, 1782 and died in 1873, while a boy of eleven years, made a trip over the Blue Mountains into Schuylkill County with a party who was making a visit to this section. Seeing some evidently hostile Indians on the top of the mountains the white people crawled in an old hollow log and waited for the savages to take their departure before proceeding on their trip.

Reading Was Township P. O.

Reading was the postoffice for Pine Grove Township up to 1819, when a post office was established at Pine Grove with John Barr as its first postmaster.

Suedburg

Suedburg, then known as Mifflin, in 1875 consisted of a hotel, a store, a church and half a dozen dwellings. A hotel has been kept for many years and is still being kept. Hans C. Christeson opened the first store in 1868, and he was instrumental in the establishment of a post office here in about 1873. Daniel B. Kochenberger was the first postmaster, but was soon succeeded by Hans C. Christeson, who held the office until his death, in 1878, after which Mrs. Louisa Christenson was postmistress. Later Frank Kreichbaum became postmaster, and then Andrew Bohr who has been the postmaster for many years.

Outwood

Ellwood, now known as Outwood, was a post office and flag station on the Schuylkill and Susquehanna, a branch of the Reading Railroad. It had about a half dozen of buildings in 1880, but now has doubled the number of dwellings. In an old

Atlas it states that at this early date Emanuel Gamber was a dealer in dry goods, groceries, boots and shoes, hats and caps, hardware, queensware, wood and willow ware, etc., and postmaster at Ellwood. The post office was discontinued.

Ravine

The lower section of Ravine was called "Grutta Schtettle" and the upper part Umbenhauerstown. It is even now spoken of as Cherryville sometimes, but more often as Ravine, the name given to the post office. C. Umbenhauer was proprietor of the American Hotel according to record. This hotel was built and run by Henry Umbenhauer during the time when coal was brought to Pine Grove to ship by boat on the Union Canal.

Ravine now has some fifty dwellings, a hotel, two churches, five stores and a graded school. The people of this region are mostly miners.

Paradise

Paradise, another village that has grown in size in the last few years, has about thirty houses. It has two stores, a church and a graded public school, and is rather a popular place as it is near Sweet Arrow Lake which is a noted resort for summer sport.

Pleasant Valley

Pleasant Valley lying east of Pine Grove along the cement state road sprang into prominence and rapidly increased in population when the electric light and power plant located in its midst. It has more than forty homes, a church and a graded school. Several stores have also been opened to accommodate the inhabitants.

Marstown

Marstown, often called Chicken Town, is southeast of Pine Grove, along the Pine Grove-Rock road, and is more like a suburb of town. This village has a graded school and about twenty dwellings.

Oak Grove

Oak Grove, a rather scattered village, known at one time as "Schludder Dahl," lies along the Susquehanna and Schuylkill Railroad, about three miles west of Pine Grove. It has about thirty houses, a chapel, two stores, and a graded school.

Pleasant Hill

Pleasant Hill, a collection of a dozen houses, is located several miles east of Pine Grove and has a single room school.

Brookside

Brookside, or sometimes called Crowtown, lies a half mile south of Pine Grove. It has about fifteen dwellings and a one-room school.

Taxables In Township

Pine Grove Township had 29 taxables in 1754, 69 taxables in 1772. From 1754 to 1771 taxes were collected by Bern Township, of Berks County. George Goodman became the first tax collector of Pine Grove Township in 1772.

Pine Grove Township had 249 taxables in 1811, nine years later there were 327 taxables and in 1829 it had 612, but when Wayne Township was cut off from Pine Grove Twp., the number of taxables was reduced to 281. The Township has at present 545 taxables.

The population of the township in 1830 was: 1,601; 1840, 1,298; 1850, 1,967; 1860, 2,817; 1870, 2,274; 1880, 2,327; 1920, 2,714; 1930, 2,873.

UNION CANAL

The Union Canal, which was designed to connect the waters of the Susquehanna and Schuylkill, and through the latter to make connection with the Delaware, was one of the earliest chartered corporations in the State, being an act approved March 11, 1811.

The Union Canal had its headquarters at Pine Grove and ran to the Water-Works Dam, a distance of twenty-two miles, where it ran to a junction point. One branch ran southwest along the Swatara River for a distance of thirty miles where it connected with the Susquehanna Canal at Portsmouth, which is now called Middletown. The other branch from Water Works Dam ran in a southeastern direction about fifty miles and connected with the Schuylkill Canal at Reading, Pa. This branch of the canal went through under a mountain near Lebanon, and was the first tunnel in the United States. This tunnel is still in existence and is the oldest tunnel in the United States.

In 1828, the project was conceived of constructing a dam across Swatara Gap for the purpose of a reservoir for this canal. The citizens along the Swatara Creek objected because this dam would destroy their facilities for rafting lumber to Jonestown, which was then their market. In order to obviate this objection, it was proposed to make a slackwater navigation in the Swatara from Pine Grove and pass the dam by a series of locks. In attempting to execute this project it was found more practicable to construct a canal along the Swatara in Schuylkill County, and it was accordingly done, with the exception of about two miles of slackwater near the county line, in what was the little dam. Work was com-

menced on the dam in the gap in the fall of 1828, and during the year 1829 operations were prosecuted along the entire line. The canal was so far completed that boats passed through it to Pine Grove Nov. 22, 1830, and on Dec. 3rd of the same year the first boat left Pine Grove for Phila. No dams, except for feeders, were built above the little dam spoken of. Between Pine Grove and the slackwater above the little dam there were four locks, with an aggregate fall of about 32 feet.

Difficulty was experienced in obtaining possession of the stream to construct a dam for the upper feeder, and the citizens turned out with their teams on a Saturday night, and, out of straw, hemlock brush, stones and earth, made a dam, which they completed before midnight. It is a remarkable fact that, though floods have carried away the other dams on this stream, this one remained.

The coal was brought from the Lorberry mines to the canal at Pine Grove. A large number of boats left Pine Grove with coal for New York City. Some went as far as Hartford, Conn. On their return they brought back from Phila. and New York City groceries, dry goods, etc. for the merchants at Pine Grove. They also brought in iron ore from Cornwall and Marietta to supply the Eckert's forge at what is now near the High Bridge, Pine Grove Furnace, and Stanhope furnace.

The canal as first constructed was capable of bearing boats with a capacity of 28 tons, which was at first found to be sufficient for the trade of the region. As the coal production increased greater facilities for its transportation were required, and in 1851 the canal was enlarged so as to float boats of 80 tons burden.

They soon found a shortage of water, especially during dry spells. In 1850, the Union Canal Co. built the so-called 'Big Dam' to store sufficient water to take care of the dry spells. This dam was located where the Sweet Arrow Lake now is, but in size and capacity Sweet Arrow Lake is but a pond compared to the Big Dam. The Big Dam covered over seven hundred acres, and the breast was 45 feet high.

In order to fill the canal from the dam, gates were drawn and the water ran down the creek through Pleasant Valley and joined the Swatara Creek. The Swatara Creek was dammed up just above the Mill St. bridge from which a tunnel was built through under the street and the banks of the canal basin.

On the night of June 2, 1862, during a great freshet, the west way of the Big Dam was filled up with logs and debris and closed this channel. Because they neglected to draw the gates of the dam, the water started to wash the breast of the dam so that it broke. This did millions of dollars worth of damage along its path. Berger's and Fegley's grist mills were both destroyed, as well as all the bridges in its reach. The canal was washed away and brought the company into bankruptcy, and ended the canal boating industry in Pine Grove.

The stations between Pine Grove and Water Works where the boats made stops were: Port Mifflin, now Suedburg; Seidel's Landing; Swatara Dam, now Greenpoint; Weidman's Forge, later Union Forge, now Lickdale; Williamstown, now Jonestown; Aqueduct at Blue Rock; Misho Mill and Water Works.

Dr. Kennedy Robinson was the superintendent of the Union Canal Co. at the Pine Grove end.

Berger's Mills

The saw-mill required water power and Swatara was a natural place

for a mill-dam. This dam known as the "Berger Dam" in later years had a long history, constructed before 1780 and lasting till just a few years ago. It, with saw-mill and flour and feed mill as well as the covered bridge across the Swatara Creek and the roadbed was washed away clean in 1862, when the great reservoir (about a hundred times the capacity of the present reservoir known as Sweet Arrow Lake), built by the Union Canal Co. in 1850, broke. The mill-dam was rebuilt with a large saw-mill for big timber and a circular saw-mill for smaller timber. In 1879 the present flour and grist mill was constructed and carried on more or less to the present time. The foundation for this mill was started in the spring of 1879. Solomon Zettlemoyer and a Mr. Lehman put up the wall, and Nicholas Clements and Elias Berger cut the first big pine tree used in building the mill. All the wood needed for the mill was taken from the farm. All the lumber was sawed by William Berger on the place. Carpenters Isaac Herring and Jared Brown with Benjamin Berger as foreman put up the building. This frame building is 35 ft. by 30 feet and is three and one-half stories high. The mill-wrights were Wm. Ney, Frank Savage, Hiram Miller, and John Rentz.

All machinery and other parts of the mill were made in the mill by hand. The water wheel was a wooden over-shut wheel, nine feet high, ten feet wide, it produced 25 horse-power which was needed to operate the mill. The wheel was built and assembled on the place. Its services extended from 1879 to 1925, nevertheless the wooden shaft was still in a first class condition. The mill was remodeled in 1890, by the Wolfe Company, and Frank Yeagley was the millwright. The capacity of the mill now is 25 bar-

rels. In 1925 the power was changed to electricity.

The dam had been broken at various times by floods, 1862-1887-1890-1902, but always rebuilt. The saw-mills did a long and useful business. Like a lot of things they fell into disuse through lack of timber and the more aggressive steam saw-mills. Thus in time they became ruins, and then dismantled in 1931, and passed forever from view. The big saw-mill has been replaced by a cold storage cellar where the best flavored fruit may be tasted the long winter through to late spring.

The last act of the "Berger Dam" came after the Pennsylvania Power and Light Co. acquired it. In 1925, the gates were opened and the water passed on, leaving only a memory!

Stanhope Forge and Furnace

A forge was built by Daniel Raudenbuch in an early day, at what is now Stanhope. In 1844, it was converted into a furnace by Adam Brown, and was operated as such quite extensively, but later it was operated intermittently, and after each active period remained idle for some time. The owners of this furnace were respectively: Augustus Huber and Zachariah Batdorf; John Winecoop and brother; Thos. Cooch; and lastly Breitenbaugh and Sheets who permitted it to run down until 1875 when it was discontinued. Nothing remains except slack. Some of this has been crushed and used as a bed for public road purposes.

Charcoal, lime and wood were used at this furnace, and later coal was brought down from the Lorberrymines. The iron ore used here was brought from Cornwall and Marietta, Lebanon County.

Swatara Forge and Furnace

The Swatara forge was started as a furnace in 1830, by Geo. N. Eckert

and Simon Guilford. This was located several miles north of Suedburg near the High Bridge. It was afterward converted into a forge, operated by Geo. N. Eckert. Remains of this forge still exist.

The Pony Farm

In 1884, P. L. Weimer bought a farm of 250 acres from Peter Zimmerman. Later he bought some adjoining land until the farm contained 320 acres.

The following year he built two large barns and started the Shetland Pony business with sixty heads of ponies imported from Scotland. This was followed by other importations including several stallions.

The railway station placed here along with a siding was named after a place in Scotland by the name of Exmoor.

The ponies raised were all broken to harness and saddle, so that children could handle them. Most of the sales were made at the American Horse Exchange in New York City. A well-trained pony sold for as high as \$360.

About this time he started the Jersey cattle breeding business, buying registered Jersey cattle from Canada and England. He paid high prices for this thoroughbred stock. For one imported bull (Stoke Pogis) he paid \$4,000 and one cow (Mary Ann of St. Lambert) cost \$1,200. For six twelve-week old Jersey calves he paid J. Wills, of Marlboro, N. J., \$3,300.

About this time prices on both cattle and butter dropped so that it no longer paid to keep high bred stock. Many of the farmers considered their scrub cows equal to thoroughbreds. The cattle and ponies were all sold, and the place is now used for farming purposes.

Camp Pine Grove

During the fall of 1925 the Troop Committee and Scoutmaster of Troop No. 111, Boy Scouts of America of Pine Grove, bought a tract of land consisting of fifty-four acres from Irwin Fidler, Esq., of Rock. This tract lies at the foot of the northern slope of the Blue Mountains, about one mile south of Stanhope Station. Since several other parcels of land have been added until it comprises eighty acres, mostly in timber.

A dam covering several acres has been constructed for fishing, boating and swimming purposes. Much time and labor as well as considerable money have been used in this project.

A beautiful camp site has also been laid out which has been used by the Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts of Pine Grove, as well as other people, for the past eight years. This place of real nature has been developed by the scouts under the leadership of their scoutmaster, Wm. H. Smith, into a most beautiful place.

Steam Electric Station

After the power plant at Palo Alto, operated by the East Penn Electric Co. was found to be inadequate in 1922, a location about one mile east of the town of Pine Grove was selected for a new plant.

The Pine Grove site was selected because of its proximity to the coal fields, its abundant space for coal and ash storage; and because a supply of water uncontaminated with mine refuse was obtainable from the East Branch of the Swatara Creek.

The plant, which was built in 1922-23 by the J. G. White Corporation, for East Penn Electric Co., consisted of modern type brick and steel building housing two 12,500 kilowatt steam turbine driven gen-

erators, with surface condensers, and six stokers fired, 800 horsepower boilers designed for 300 pounds working steam pressure, together with all necessary auxiliary equipment. The fuel was No. 3 buckwheat anthracite.

Coal was delivered in standard railroad cars and either dumped directly into hoppers in the plant or into the storage area nearby. If dumped into the plant, it was hoisted automatically to a hopper at the top of the boiler room from whence it was distributed to the boilers by means of a weigh larry.

Inasmuch as the flow of the Swatara Creek was, at times, too small to supply the full amount of water for the condensers, a spray pond, the largest ever built up to this time, was included in the installation and a dam was constructed about one-half mile north of the plant to control stream flow. The dam was designed so that by increasing its height, sufficient water could be impounded to take care of a considerable increase in the size of the plant.

Early in 1925, the Pennsylvania Power and Light Co. purchased East Penn Electric Co. and subsequently, due to constantly increasing demand for electricity in its territory found it necessary to add to its generating facilities. It was decided to build an extension to the plant at Pine Grove adding one 30,000 kilowatt turbo-generator, three 1800 horsepower pulverized coal fired boilers designed for 400 pounds working steam pressure and a coal preparation plant to house pulverizing mills and rotary coal dryers. This addition, when completed in 1927, brought the total generating capacity of the plant up to 55,000 kilowatts with a total installed boiler capacity of over 10,000 horsepower.

Up to the time this addition was put into service, all large anthracite burning power plants used traveling grate stokers or hand fired grates under the boilers. Very small sizes of anthracite including waste from fresh mined coal had been unmarketable because no way had been found to burn them efficiently.

At the present time, over 150,000 tons of this formerly unmarketable fuel are pulverized and burned every year in the new portion of the Pine Grove Plant. The original stoker fired section of the plant burns about 75,000 tons of No. 3 buckwheat per year.

In addition to burning large quantities of anthracite and thus providing work at the mines for large numbers of people, about 125 people are employed in the plant itself.

The Pine Grove plant not only supplies electricity to Pottsville and surrounding territory but is connected by 66,000 volt transmission lines to Harrisburg, and to Fishbach and Exchange Substations near Mt. Carmel.

ROADS

At first the settlers followed mostly Indian trails in their venture through the forests. These trails or paths were narrow, only being passable on foot or horseback. These paths followed the valleys around the hills or mountains whenever possible, thereby producing a very irregular and crooked path. Whenever it was necessary to cross hills or mountains, the lowest parts were always taken.

The Sunbury Road or Trail crossed the Blue Mountains where the present Pine Grove-Millersburg public road crosses the ridge of the mountain. Thence it extended north down the mountain slope into the valley to where a man named Bress-

ler had settled, later John Wagner's farm, now the home of George Schnoke; from this place it went in a northeast direction passing the present site of the public school building at Stanhope; thence in a northerly direction to what is now Pleasant Hill; from where it went west along the present road leading to Pine Grove to what is now East Pine Grove; thence north along what is termed "Lover's Lane" to Ravine; it extended north passing through Lorberry and Joliett connecting with the main Sunbury Trail at Deep Creek Valley five miles west of Ashland.

This road was at first just a path used by people on foot or horseback. Later it became widened for wagon use. Shorter paths into other sections of the township were made until there was a net-work of paths and roads. These were, after years of use, gradually but slowly improved until there now is a complete system of fine roads.

The natural effect of the construction of the earliest wagon roads, including the Sunbury Road, was to draw a more adventurous population into the regions through which they ran. This increased the population considerably.

Roads were for years obstructed by stumps and rocks, and all streams were crossed by fordways, where the water was shallow.

Odd Brakes For Steep Roads

It is said that in very early times a curious plan was adopted for "braking" wagons in descending the sides of mountains or hills on these roads. Brakes such as are now used were not known, and the result of "chaining the wheel" was the speedy grinding away and destruction of the tire. To accomplish their purpose the teamsters adopted the plan of cutting trees of suitable size at the top of the mountain or hill and

fastening them to the rear of their wagons and dragging them down, not only relieving their teams from the labor of holding back the loads but preventing accidents. Large accumulations of these trees were often seen at the bases of the mountains on these roads.

Quite a traffic was carried on by means of the river. The melting of the winter snows, which fell in large quantities, was taken advantage of to raft down the lumber which was cut during the winter. Supplies were brought back from the city by means of flat boats and canoes propelled by poles or even towed by horses that moved along the shore or bank crossing from side to side to obtain the best channel.

Pine Grove Township has one of the best layout of public roads found in any community. There are sixteen roads leading through Pine Grove Township into the town of Pine Grove. Five come in from Harrisburg, Lebanon and other intervening places on the west; two from the north from Tremont and Joliett connecting with the main highway on the north; seven coming in from the east connecting with Pottsville, Schuylkill Haven, Summit Station and other eastern points; and two from the south crossing the Blue Mountains reaching Fredericksburg and Millersburg. There are also many roads connecting the main roads.

Years ago the supervisor when about to repair the road in a certain locality would ask the help of the taxpayers and their compensation would be deducted from their road tax. Later the township secured a "scraper," a machine which would scrape the ground from the sides toward the middle of the road. Now a drag is used to repair the mud or ground roads.

First Road Improved By State

In 1908 the State took over a

short stretch of road, then a part of the township, but now known as Annex. This road is about 3,300 feet long and was constructed with what is known as Telford bottom. This was the first improved road in this part of the country.

The cement road leading from Washington Township through Pine Grove west to Lebanon County was constructed in 1925. It is thirteen miles long and is one of the finest roads for driving. After much agitation the State Highway Department finally constructed a fine concrete road between Pine Grove and Tremont. This stretch of six miles of fine cement road was constructed during the summer of 1932.

The roads leading from Pine Grove to Summit Station, from Pine Grove through Paradise Valley to Cressona, from Pine Grove south to Swope's Valley, from Pine Grove west through Oak Grove to Suedburg are macadam type of roads. All are the bituminous macadam, except about a mile of the water-bound macadam type. The road leading to Millersburg has been partly graded to the ridge of the Blue Mountain and will be completed in the future.

Pine Grove Township has twenty-three miles of state highway roads and thirty-eight miles of township roads. All these roads are under the supervision of Caretaker Aaron Spitler.

Pine Grove Township has twelve cement bridges as follows: Lorberrry Junction, Cherryville, one north of Pine Grove on the Tremont-Pine Grove road, on the Paradise road, Pleasant Valley, Stanhope, east of Pine Grove on the Pine Grove-Rock road, south of Pine Grove, Swatara Valley, two at Suedburg, and one at Outwood. There also is a steel bridge at Mars-town.

RAILROADS

The Union Canal Railroad was the first railroad chartered in the county. It was incorporated by a supplement to the several acts incorporating the Union Canal Co., which supplement was approved March 3, 1826. It authorized the company "to construct a railway or railways branching from said navigation to any point or points which may be required for the communication between the said Union Canal and coal mines of the Swatara and the country west and northwest thereof."

In accordance with the provisions of its charter it was constructed to the junction of Lorberry and Swatara Creeks, and used mainly for the transportation of coal. It was built of wooden rails, stringers, topped with 1-4 in.x1 1-2 in. strap iron. The cars were drawn by horses from Pine Grove to the Lorberry mines where they were loaded with coal and run down the grade to Pine Grove again. The horses were taken down the road to bring the cars up. Several cars were brought down on one trip. Rings were attached to the sides of the cars through which ropes were drawn to keep them together.

This Lorberry Mine was owned by John Strimpler and a Mr. Shoemaker. A Mr. Stackpole was superintendent of the road. He accidentally got under the cars and was injured so severely that he died. He being the captain of a military company, was buried with military honors, at Pine Grove, from what is now St. Peter's Lutheran Church. This was the first military funeral held at Pine Grove, and people came from the country for many miles.

On April 2, 1831, the Swatara and Good Spring Creek Railroad was chartered. It was to run from the

northern end of the Union Canal Co.'s railroad, up the Swatara River to its junction with the Good Spring Creek, and thence up the said creek to a point most suitable in the heart of the coal region. March 25, 1841, its name was changed to the Swatara Railroad Co.

By supplements to the charter the time for construction was extended several times, and by other supplements the company was authorized to construct branches, make extensions, and form connections. By a supplement passed April 6, 1848, the use of locomotive power on the railroad was authorized, and locomotives were soon afterward placed on the road.

In 1863 the road was leased by the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Co., and afterward purchased by that company. About six miles had been built when it was leased, and a branch from Tremont up Middle Creek partly graded. The road has been extended by the Phila. and Reading.

Another Road Incorporated

On April 25, 1844, the Fishing Creek, Swatara and Schuylkill Railroad, commonly known as the Schuylkill and Susquehanna Railroad, was incorporated. It was to run from Fishing Creek Gap in the Sharp Mountain, near the junction of Fishing Creek and Baird's Run, in Pine Grove, along the valley between Sharp and Second Mountains to the Swatara; and thence, by a favorable route, to the summit between Little Swatara and Bear Creek; and by the valley of the latter to the Phila. and Reading Railroad, at some point near the mouth of Bear Creek. In 1847 the time for commencement was extended to 1850, and in 1850 to 1855.

This road runs from Auburn to the county line in Tremont Township via Pine Grove, and extends thence to Dauphin, where it con-

nects with the main line between Harrisburg and Williamsport.

This road was built by Irish laborers. Large and strong Canadian horses, brought from Canada, were used to draw the cars, or dumpers, to handle the ground and gravel taken from the cuts and filled in the high banks. This material was loosened by dynamite, pick, and shovel.

Captain Tyler, a West Point graduate, was the first president of the road. W. R. Tracy, of Pine Grove, was the superintendent of the road up to 1868. Harry W. Tracey then became superintendent and remained so up to 1897.

In 1868 construction was begun on a railroad extending from Pine Grove through the valley along the Swatara Creek to Lebanon connecting with the main line between Reading and Harrisburg. This road which took the place of the Union Canal, was completed several years later, and along with the road running from Pine Grove through Tremont is known as the Tremont and Lebanon Branch of the Reading Railway Company.

Kennedy Robinson representing the Railway Co. adjusted the claims of the land owners along this railway. John Leffler lost his life while employed in the construction of this railway.

CHURCHES

Jacob's Church of Swatara Valley was built in 1780 on a tract of land obtained from the government, containing thirty-seven acres. The congregation was organized, and a church built of hewn logs, in the same year. The records of this congregation for the first nineteen years are wanting. No list of the communicant members can be found. The names of the building committee of the first church were: John Stein, Balthaser Bohr, George

Felty, Lenhart Minnich, and John Brenner. As this was the only church in this region and the country thinly settled, many of the members had a long distance to come. The ministers who were present and dedicated the first church were: Revs. Frederick V. Melsheimer and Wm. Kurtz, the latter being the pastor.

Comparing their wanderings in search of a home to the patriarch Jacob, they named the church Jacob's Church. This name has never been changed.

The first person buried at Jacob's Church was Sebastian Felty son of George Felty, the first settler in the locality. The young man was drowned in the Swatara while rafting logs. Among the first burials recorded was Philip Keiser who died March 18, 1804. He was one of the pioneer settlers of Williams Valley located on the present site of Tower City. As there were no churches in that vicinity at the time of his death, he was carried across these mountain trails to Jacob's Church for burial. They arrived here bearing the crude homemade coffin wearied and fatigued from their long journey followed by a few mourners.

In the early days of the Church the pastor or one of the officers was the 'Forsprecher' for the hymns. It is also a matter of record that the collection was taken in 'Clingel-socks,' a sack on the end of a pole to which was attached a bell to waken the sleepy members.

There are no records of this church available of an earlier date than 1799. The first church was used as a place of worship till 1833, when it was torn down and a new one erected of logs and weather-boarded. John Stein and Geo. Stein were the building committeemen.

It is known that the pastors since its organization were: Rev. Wm.

Kurtz, 1780-1798; Rev. Andrew Schultz, 1798-1802; Rev. John Knoske, 1802-1811; Rev. Geo. Minnig, 1811-1833; Rev. Wm. Minnig, 1833-1839; Rev. A. B. Gockelen, 1839-1845; Rev. Benj. Stadtler, 1845-1849; Rev. Edw. Breidenbaugh, 1849-1852; Rev. Elias S. Henry, 1852-1897; Rev. Herman F. Kroh, 1897-1911; Rev. Harry S. Dollman, 1912-present.

Additions have been made to the already large cemetery. Here people from all over the eastern part of the State of Pennsylvania come to visit their dead, who are buried here.

Within a year a U-shaped driveway was constructed between the Church and the public road. The large yard in front of the church was laid out in a fine lawn with ornamental trees and flower beds. A stone marker also improves the view. This adds very noticeably to the beauty of this historic spot. A building forty feet square was built last year to take care of the social side of the congregation.

Churches of Ravine

Rev. William H. Uhler, son of David and Julian Uhler, who was born and reared in this vicinity, became the first United Brethren minister in Ravine and vicinity. He conducted many church revivals and through these efforts brought many a sinner into the fold of God.

This neighborhood had no Church or Sunday School services up to 1853, when Wm. H. Uhler, a member of the United Brethren Church of Pine Grove, started services in a private house, a log house known as the Batdorf home, on the back road, opposite the hotel, known as the Cross Road Hotel. This log house was occupied by Samuel Umbenhauer until 1858, when he vacated and a Mr. Miller moved in. Church and Sunday School services

were conducted here until 1863, when the place was found too small, and accordingly they decided to build a new church more in the centre of the village, and along the 'Sunbury Road' for the convenience of all people. So under the leadership of Rev. Uhler, they built a small church. These people worshipped here for a number of years, but the membership increased until they again found it too small. They now discussed a plan of securing larger quarters, and finally decided to build a second church. Since there was no public school in this region, they decided to sell the old building to the School Directors of Pine Grove Twp. School District and build the second church. This project was approved by the citizens of the village, and in about 1867, under the supervision of Rev. Uhler, the new and more commodious building was erected.

The first church building was afterward remodeled by John A. Zimmerman, now the principal merchant of the village, into a double dwelling, which is occupied at present by Wm. Rump and Thos. Wenrich. The second church building remains to this day. It is the first house north of the present school house, and occupied at present by Henry Lehr and Wm. Shollenberger.

Some years afterward, Rev. Uhler went to another charge and was succeeded by Rev. Craumer. Later the membership dwindled, and being left in the hands of class leaders services were finally discontinued. About this time, Rev. Elias S. Henry, Lutheran minister of Pine Grove, came here and with the permission of the School Directors of Pine Grove Township School District, was allowed to preach in the public school house. Percival Barr was the janitor and steward for Rev. Henry.

In the year 1892, Rev. Sheirely, a Reformed minister of Pine Grove, started a catechetical class. Elias Mease, a member of the Evangelical Church, of Pine Grove now came here and started a Sunday School. These were carried on from 1890 to 1896.

In the year of 1894, Rev. Hains, a United Brethren Minister, of Pine Grove, came here alone and started a revival meeting in the Huber's Grove. These services were very successful. After these meetings they secured the band hall as a place of worship. After about two years they decided to build a church.

The United Brethren and Lutheran congregations now agreed to build a Union Church. Plans were made and the building put under construction. When the building was about half completed, a storm tore down the structure, but the people were not discouraged and at once started a new building.

The Union Church was dedicated on April 24, 1897. The building committee consisted of John Leininger, Elias Zimmerman, and John H. Lengle. Wm. Umbenhauer donated the ground for the church and cemetery. Rev. Herman F. Kroh, Lutheran minister of Pine Grove; Rev. Milton H. Miller, United Brethren minister of Pine Grove; and Rev. Wm. H. Uhler, presiding elder, of Lebanon, were present at the dedication. Richard Barr was steward for the United Brethren congregation.

From the beginning the Lutheran and United Brethren congregation worshipped in this church until 1903, when the Lutheran side bought out rights of the United Brethren congregation. The Church now was named "St. Mathew's Evangelical Lutheran Church." This congregation now worships in a cozy

auditorium and is in a prosperous condition.

A Sunday School has been connected with this church from the beginning. The following were the superintendents of the Sunday School: John Leininger, Jacob Lehman, Chas. Schach, Milton Miller, and David Lengle.

The following ministers preached in the Church: Rev. Elias S. Henry, 1896-1900; Rev. H. M. Schofer, 1900-1906; Rev. W. W. Kramlich, 1907-1909; Rev. Geo. Kirschke, 1911-1912; Rev. Aaron H. Klick, 1912-1920; Rev. Earnest Weber, 1921-1925; Rev. M. M. Kipps, 1926-to present.

Reformed Church of Ravine

During the same year the Lutheran Church was built, the people of Ravine inclined toward the Reformed faith, laid a cornerstone for a church on a plot of ground donated by Wm. Umbenhauer. The same year (1896) an edifice was erected. This frame building is a large spacious church, and had been used for both Church and Sunday School services until 1930, when a wing was added to the church building proper, making a separate room for Sunday School purposes. A basement was also added to take care of the social side of the church activities.

The ministers of the congregation have been as follows: Rev. Elmer S. Noll, Rev. Howard Althouse, Rev. Sidney Koehler, Rev. Thos. Kressly, Rev. Chas. A. Huyette, Rev. Herbert C. Correll.

A Sunday School was organized on New Year, 1899, and has been in existence ever since. Much progress has been made in this department. Thos. Lehr, Benj. Batdorf, Richard Barr, Harry Russell, Geo. Shutt, and Chas. Boyer have been superintendents. Albert Dinger is the present superintendent.

Other activities carried on in connection with this church are the

Ladies' Aid Society, the Sewing Circle, the Home Department and Cradle Roll Department.

Suedburg Church of God

The Suedburg "Church of God" began as a mission on May 8, 1870. First protracted meeting began on March 11, 1871, in the West Pine Grove Township school house, located near the present public school building. This religious effort resulted in nearly one hundred accessions to the church. This denomination was organized as a church on April 16, 1871 by Rev. Israel Hay, of Fredericksburg, Lebanon County, with forty-six members of which Miss Annie Strubhar, of Annville, Pa., is still living.

On Oct. 21, 1871, the congregation voted to erect a house of worship. For this purpose John Strubhar donated one acre of land for a building site and cemetery. On April 19, 1872 the cornerstone was laid by Rev. Hay, assisted by Revs. Brady and Carvel. By Nov. 17, 1872, the basement which is now used as a Sunday School room was ready for dedication to the Lord's cause. Rev. Hay was assisted by Revs. Zeigler, Carvel, and Harvey of the Methodist Church.

More than thirty years ago this congregation completed the upper room and have since used it as a church auditorium. This denomination has made rapid strides and is very active. They have a large and prosperous Sunday School, of which Frank Felty is the efficient superintendent.

The following served as pastors: Israel Hay, 1870-1877; Rev. Stone-sifer, 1877-1878; Samuel Smith, 1878-1881; Israel Hay, 1884-1887; J. W. Miller, 1887-1891; J. F. Meixel, 1891-1892; C. C. Bartels, 1892-1893; Israel Hay, 1893-1894; Chas. Kahler, 1894-1899; Israel Hay, 1899-1901; Samuel Smith, 1901-1903; W. H. Snyder.

1903-1906; Rev. Kline, 1906-1910; E. Gahres, 1910-1913; E. F. Yoder, 1913-1915; W. D. Sheets, 1915-1919; C. D. Rishel, 1919-1920; E. F. Berger, 1920-1922; J. M. Kimes, 1922-1924; W. C. Fortney, 1924-1927; Wm. Rissmiller, 1927-1928; W. F. Johnson, 1928-1931; E. R. Yoder, 1931, to the present.

Lutheran Church of Outwood

Several congregations have grown out of Jacob's Church of Swatara Valley. The first was St. Peter's, which was built, in 1816, the stone church in the lower end of Pine Grove. From this in turn, in 1845, St. John's, of the same place, was formed. In 1874, an old school house near Outwood was purchased by the congregation, and fitted up as a place of worship, for the accommodation of those members living in the lower end of this charge. In this way the beginning of another congregation was made and for more than a quarter of a century church services were conducted in this small building. Sunday School sessions were held most of the time during this period.

Prior to the year 1897, various attempts were made to build a church in this section of the Jacob's Lutheran Church territory, but on account of disagreement of location, and other reasons, the project always came to naught. In 1897, when the Rev. Herman F. Kroh took charge, he immediately recognized the absolute necessity of placing a new church in this part of the valley, if the membership of the old Jacob's was to be held. The Jacob's Church was located at the extreme eastern end, while the membership extended as far as Union Township, Lebanon County.

The pastor agitated the necessity of building a new church, with the result that the cornerstone of the new Ellwood Lutheran Church was laid July 13, 1903. The new edifice

was placed on the opposite diagonal corner on a hill. The Rev. Geo. C. Henry, of Shippensburg, and the pastor officiated. The church was dedicated on October 3 and 4, 1903. Rev. P. C. Croll, of Lebanon; Rev. Geo. C. Henry, of Shippensburg; and Rev. A. H. Klick and the pastor officiated. On Oct. 16, 1904, a new bell was dedicated. The attending ministers were: Rev. C. W. Diehl, of Chambersburg; Rev. George C. Henry, of Shippensburg; Rev. John A. Richter, of Tremont; and the pastor.

This new building was used continuously for worship until Sunday afternoon, June 26, 1932, when it was destroyed by fire caused by a bolt of lightning. The congregation immediately decided to erect another edifice. On Sept. 21, of the same year the cornerstone for the new building was dedicated. The members of the church as well as friends and neighbors banded together and gave timber, lumber and labor and money to such an extent that on Sunday, June 4, 1933, a new church was dedicated without a cent of debt. This new building is estimated at a value of fifteen hundred dollars, the membership is ninety-eight.

The following pastors served: Rev. Elias S. Henry, 1874-1897; Rev. Herman F. Kroh, 1897-1911; Rev. Harry S. Dollman, 1912-present.

A Sunday School has been held in this church these many years, and has accomplished much good. The present superintendent of this school is Elmer Lehman.

German Baptist Church

The German Baptist Church, often known as the Dunkard Church, of this community originally belonged to the Little Swatara congregation of Lebanon County. In

1877, by mutual agreement, they became a separate church, under the present name, under Elder George Smith who was their first elder. They met in the homes of the members for a considerable length of time. In 1911, they decided to build a church in Swopes Valley. This church was dedicated on April 14, 1912. They worshipped in this church until 1917, when they planned to build another church at the lower end of the Big Dam, in Paradise. Because of the location, it was named Big Dam Church. This Church was dedicated on Dec. 1-2, 1917. The first love-feast was held on Christmas, 1917.

The following elders served this congregation: Geo. Smith, (1877-1885); John Hertzler (1885-1901); J. W. Meyer, (1901-1905); E. M. Wenger, (1905-1927); Nathan Martin, (1927-1931); S. K. Wenger, (1931-to present).

Other ministers who preached were Daniel Kutz, Wm. Kintzel, and Elias Morgan.

A Sunday School was also organized at an early date with Frank Haldeman as its superintendent. The present superintendent is Chas. H. Morgan. This Sunday School is in a flourishing condition.

Zion's Holiness Congregation

The Zion's Holiness congregation, of Pleasant Valley was organized in 1919, with Samuel Kramer as its founder. They worshipped in a small building, erected for that purpose, until the year 1925, when a stucco-framed edifice for worship was erected on land donated by Samuel Kramer. The following official board served when the new church was built:

Samuel Kramer, Floyd Kramer, Geo. Kramer, Edw. Berkheiser, Edw. Kramer.

The preachers were:

G. B. Detrick, Walter Schaefer, Wm. T. Hartranft, Roy O. Musser, C. T. Boyer.

A Sunday School was organized the same year the congregation was formed, and has been in a flourishing condition since.

These serving as superintendents of the Sunday School:

Jos. Kramer, Belton Kramer, Anson Kramer, Chas. J. Mengle.

Oak Grove Union S. S. Chapel

Sunday School had been held in the public schoolhouse for many years, but on account of poor equipment and other inconveniences it became necessary to have better quarters. So, when an opportunity came to buy lumber salvaged from the Asher Tabernacle very cheaply, it was agreed to buy same and build a chapel for the Sunday School.

A building committee consisted of Chas. Klinger, Chas. Greenawalt, Irwin Hughes, Robert Werner, and Sylvester Olt. During the summer of 1915, this fine chapel was erected at a cost of one thousand eight hundred dollars.

The following persons served as superintendents of this Sunday School both in the public school building and the present chapel:

Edw. Beuchler, Elias Conrad, Isaac Rehrer, Moses R. Hughes, Wm. H. Smith, John W. Hughes, Sylvester Olt, Edwin Olt, Robert Werner, Sara Fidler.

This chapel is used for Young People's Christian Endeavor meetings, weekly prayer meeting, and other religious meetings.

SCHOOLS

A German Reformed Church was erected on the farm of Jacob Gunkle in 1782 and a parochial school was kept in connection with the church during part time of its earlier existence.

The schools of Pine Grove Township had a beginning in 1799 when a German school was taught, the German language being taught exclusively until 1820.

Very early in the history of the Jacob's Congregation (1780-1799) a log schoolhouse was built near the church. There for many years, was conducted the only school in this section of the country. The usual tuition was fifty cents a month. No records of this school have been found, but some of the early teachers were a Mr. Gruber, of Harrisburg, a Mr. Neu and Ludwig Schmidt. Godfrey Rehrer also taught in this school later.

This building is the oldest log schoolhouse standing in the State. It has been remodeled several times, transformed into a pleasant home, and has been used for many years by the janitor of the Jacob's Church.

Pine Grove Township began its agitation of the common school question as early as September, 1834. A meeting was called, at this date to consider the educational bill, just enacted, but its beneficent provisions were unanimously rejected. This called out a meeting of those in sympathy of general education. This meeting was largely attended by both parties, the opponents being present to watch the movements of the advocates. It was organized by making Wm. Hock president, and Dr. J. S. Armstrong, secretary.

Such enthusiastic meetings set the people to thinking, and consequently aroused them to more earnest action on both sides. This was practically shown at the succeeding spring election, when the schoolmen, by strategy, elected their directors, but were afterward forced to abandon their advantage thus gained, on account of the overpowering strength of the opposition and the menacing attitude assumed.

The following spring, the village of Pine Grove organized an independent school district and by shrewd manipulation on the part of the schoolmen, they elected their directors by a majority of one, and opened a school for four months in the old schoolhouse which, with the lot, was donated to the town by its builders.

Form Independent School District

In 1843, Mr. Strong and a few others organized an independent school district, called it North Pine Grove, and opened a school for four months. In 1845, Colonel Eckert and others formed another, called it West Pine Grove, and opened a school for five months. The remainder of the township was without schools until 1847, except when some nomadic schoolmaster collected a few children in an unoccupied building for about two months during the winter. The independent school districts, through their free schools, had taught the poorer classes by this time, that for a tax of about a dollar, they could send a whole family of children to school four months. The accession of this class to the ranks of the schoolmen elected a board friendly to the free school system. They at once organized, built school-houses, and opened six schools for a term of four months.

The first school building in the West Pine Grove Twp. Independent School District built in 1845, was a one-room building located at the cross-roads near where the present school house stands. It was south of the public road and between the mill race and the private road leading to Klinger's mill, which is still in operation. This was used for school purposes until 1873. The building was sold to the Lutheran Congregation.

On Aug. 13, 1872, the school directors made a contract with Ezra

Felty to build the present school house for \$1,785. This was a two-story edifice and the primary grades were placed on the first floor with the grammar grades on the second floor. In 1894, an addition was made which gave the district three rooms. These continue to this day.

The first teacher as recorded in the minutes was J. H. Butler, of Chester County, for a five-months term, at forty-five dollars a month.

The following teachers taught in the West Pine Grove Township schools: Jacob Burgner, Peter Burgner, Barbara Phillips, Ella Gilbert, Geo. Adams, Ella Reinhart, Geo. Thiel, Anna Thompson, L. G. E. Felty, Mary Thompson, Emma S. Wolfe, Wm. H. Kremer, Clara Beuchler, Andrew Bohr, Carrie Sheidy, Milton Dieffenbach, Ella Stitzer, Irene Huber, Lillie Dieffenbach, Irwin A. Reed, May Haak, Minnie Bailor, Jennie Myers, Geo. A. Behney, Geo. W. Wagner, Cora Ney, Hattie Freed, Minnie Phillips, Eva Schlappich, Raymond Wagner, Elizabeth R. Bock, Rebecca Artz, Madeline Mason, Gabriel H. Bohn.

Before Oak Grove or Irving brick school houses were erected, a building used for school purposes stood at the cross-road, one mile west of Beuchler Station, on the public road leading from Pine Grove to Outwood. Very little data can be obtained as all the people who had knowledge of such a building have died.

Mrs. John Christ, late of Pine Grove, who then lived south of Beuchler on the Edward Aungst farm, attended this school when a girl.

School Districts United

In 1847 the public school system was admitted, and the East Pine Grove and North Pine Grove Township School Districts were united. The school directors now decided to build six school houses as recorded data shows.

On April 27, 1850, a lot at Stanhope Furnace size forty-five feet by fifty-seven feet, was sold for \$10 by John Derfler to Pine Grove Twp. School Board, composed of Jacob Stein, Peter Klick, Wm. Mayberry, Conrad Richards, John Felty, and John A. Dutter. This school house was located on the northeast corner of the Rock-Pleasant public roads, and was used for school until 1876. It was sold to Henry Derfler who changed it to a dwelling. Dorcas Huber, Enoch Moore and Jerry Lehman were teachers in this school.

On Sept. 7, 1850, a lot was sold for one dollar, from John Stein to Pine Grove Twp. School Directors; John Stein, Wm. Mayberry, John Ney, John Felty, Conrad Richards and George Rehner. This building was erected at Oak Grove, and was replaced by a brick one in the early seventies. Some of the teachers were Sallie Haley, Jerry Lehman, and one by the name of Wistler.

On Oct. 24, 1851, John Stein and his wife Susannah, deeded a lot to Pine Grove Twp. School District, the directors of which were: John Ney, George Markey, John Stein, Jacob Stein, John Sattizahn, and John Felty. The price paid was five dollars. This edifice was located about halfway between the present home of Claude Neitlinger and Wm. Rehner, on the south side of the road. About 1873 this school was vacated and a new brick one erected where the present frame school house stands near Irving Station. George Maurer, a man by the name of Haug, George Mars, William Mars, Perry Bixler, a Mr. Umberger, Eliza Huber and Mary Seigfried were some of the teachers.

On March 15, 1855, George Eckert and Emily his wife, of Phila., and Simeon Guilford and his wife Catharine, of Lebanon, sold a lot for the sum of \$5 to the school direct-

ors of Pine Grove Twp. This school was built on the cross-roads east of Ottis Rehner's farm, and was used for school purposes until 1875, when the present brick building at Brookside was erected. John F. Werntz, later the founder of the Pine Grove Bank, and Jerry Lehman were teachers in this school.

Record shows that a lot was deeded to the Pine Grove Twp. School District, in 1855, by John Zerbe and his wife Mary, for one dollar. This corresponds to the location of the school house below the Schultz's farm. Some of the teachers here were Edward Hummel, who taught many years, John F. Werntz, Singleton Hikes, Morris W. Hikes and Josiah Christ.

On April 23, 1857, Samuel Halderman and his wife, Harriet, sold a lot for \$8 to the school directors who were: John Gauby, John Ney, Jacob Stein, Samuel Fry, Enoch Moore, and Singleton Hikes. This school house was erected on the corner of the Paradise-Ravine public road, opposite Harry Spancake's gas station. School continued here until a brick building was built where the present frame school house now stands. Among the teachers were Annie Longenecker, Louis Hummel, Edward Hummel, and Lizzie Williams.

A lot was sold by Martin Kuhns, for the sum of five dollars, on Nov. 30, 1857, to the directors of Pine Grove Twp. Schools: John Stein (of Peter), John Stein (of Henry), John Stein (of George), John Zerbe, John Ney and George Markey. You will notice there were three John Steins on the school board and five of the names were 'John'. This school house was located a short distance in from the public road where Nelson Napp once lived, in Swope's Valley. Sallie Dennis, Milton McGuire, Louis Sarge, Louis Hummel and Maj. Levi Huber were among the known teachers at this school.

Jacob Eberly also sold a lot to the school district during the year of 1857, for \$10. This must be the location for the old school building on Pleasant Hill. This was erected on the spot where the present school is, only the old building faced toward the east.

Six Schools In Township

A record gives Pine Grove Twp. as having six schools at one time, all the teachers being male. The enrollment of the schools was two hundred fifty-five, forty of which brought German books to school. A \$500 tax was levied for all purposes. The State paid \$156, giving the enormous sum of \$656. They paid the teachers \$494; fuel and everything else, \$50; repairs were \$4.50.

These early school houses had a single aisle running through the middle of the room, with long benches extending from the aisle to the walls. The benches had a back to rest against. They had a small stove in the middle of the room, and wood was mostly the fuel used. On a cold day the children near the stove would almost roast and those farther away would be often very cold. The goose-quill was used to write in the copy book. Many pupils had no textbooks, and there was nothing to create a desire on the part of the pupils to attend the school. Farmers kept their older children at home until all the farm work was done, and kept them out of school in early spring. Many attended school only short periods during the then short term. Many of the boys and girls attended until they were nineteen and twenty years of age, and it often required all the personality as well as the muscular side of the teacher to handle these big raw-boned pupils.

School No. 1

About 1875 John Stein who then owned the farm now belonging to

Ottis Rehrer, sold a lot to the Pine Grove School District, on which was erected one room, a brick building for school purposes. This has been used continuously since for school. This is School No. 1.

The following taught in this school: Jerry Lehman, Eugene Kern, Peter Keeny, Edgar Bechtel, Ella Johnson, Andrew Hummel, John Boyer, W. H. Kramer, Harry M. Jones, Gregory Achenbach, Irwin F. Struphar, John H. Angst, D. B. Moyner, Geo. Smith, Oscar Hatter, Raymond Wagner, Lambert Spancake, David Zimmerman, Allen Fehr, Lyman Schrope, Edwin Lamey, Harvey Hesser, Chas. M. Keeny, Stella Hughes, Ethel Werner, Esther Greenawalt, Louis Zeigler, Gertrude G. Haley, Wm. H. Smith, Mary Brommer, Kathryn Miller, Olive V. Mosher, Helen C. Kinsinger.

School No. 2

Number Two School is located in the upper section of Swope's Valley. It is a one-room brick building erected in the early seventies, and used for school since. The following teachers are on record: Levi F. McDonough, John F. Werntz, Victor Porterfield, Irene Huber, Sadie Sauser, Lyman Stupp, John H. Angst, Wm. H. Smith, Harry Stine, Amelia Bailor, Frank Smith, Herman Loy, Jeremiah Heffner, Elmer Keeny, David Zimmerman, Chas. M. Keeny, Geo. I. Christ, Lillie Lyons, Catherine Long, Lena Barr, Harold Hummel, Robert Spancake, Stanford Schwalm, Stanley Lewars, Louis Zeigler, Miriam Readinger, Alice V. Haley, Gertrude Zerbe, Carl Wolf, Geo. J. Wagner, Mrs. Emma Hikes, Mrs. Esther Clements, Judith M. Stauffer.

School No. 3

In 1869 John Shubart and his wife Catharine deeded a lot to the school board of Pine Grove Twp. for a consideration of \$30. On this parcel of ground, the Irving one-room

brick school house was placed. During the early part of the year 1880, this building was blown down by a storm, but was replaced the same year by a frame building which is yet used for school. The following were the teachers: Aaron T. Felty, John Salen, Arthur Hampton, Rufus Felty, Victor Thompson, L. G. E. Felty, Morris Batdorf, Chas. Confehr, Abram B. Heisler, Thomas L. Gage, Frank Huber, Harry B. Bixler, Lyman Stupp, Carrie Boyer, John H. Angst, Gregory Achenbach, Geo. Smith, Wm. H. Smith, Amos Zerbe, Wm. H. Lehr, Elmer Keeny, Naomi Artz, Florence Reber, Edna U. Stine, Philip Rumpf, Allen Hummel, Stella Hughes, L. F. McDonough, Stanley Lewars, Mary Stine, Irene Felty, Mrs. Anna L. Seibert, Geo. J. Wagner, Chas. M. Keeny.

Oak Grove School No. 4

About 1874, the old school house at Oak Grove was considered insufficient and a new brick building was erected at the same place. Daniel Sheidy who manufactured bricks east of Pine Grove at what is now Pleasant Valley, supplied the bricks for this building as well as the others erected in the township during the seventies, and Nicholas Brenner had the contract to build them. This was a one-room building until 1911, when another room was added to the rear for a primary school. The addition is a frame building put up by Emerich & Werner, at a cost of \$747. These two schools are continued at present. There is a record of the following teachers: Jonathan Fidler, Joe Thompson, L. G. E. Felty, Samuel Fidler, Allen Manmiller, Mr. Logan. Chas. Christ, Moses Loy, George Wheeler, Thos. L. Gage, Jas. A. Heisler, Geo. Bair, John D. Williams, Lyman Stupp, Harry B. Bixler, Thos. Lehr, Verna Matten, Wm.

H. Lehr, Wm. H. Smith, George Wagner, Francis Hummel, Minnie Lebo, Lyman E. Schrope, Francis Zimmerman, Alvin Hummel, L. F. McDonough, Lillie Yocum, Ada Wenrich, Esther Garis, Rebecca Kern, Esther Greenawalt, Wm. Shollenberger, Irene Felty, Florence Hatter, Olive Lewars, Elizabeth Haley, Mabel Greenawalt, Ellen L. Zimmerman.

Gertrude Keller, Grace Achenbach, Theo. Thomas, Wilson Lewars, Mary Brommer, Chas. M. Keeny, Lillian Thompson, Olive R. Gilbert, H. I. Honsberger, Ruth M. Hoy, Jean Roberts, Judith M. Stauffer, Mrs. Emma Hikes, Emma M. Nye, Edna Zerbe.

Marstown School No. 5

More than fifty years ago the brick school house in Harveystown, now south of the Schultz's farm, was School No. 5, but as school was discontinued at above place, Marstown schools now have that number. In 1913, the Board of Pine Grove Twp. Schools contracted to Chas. Werner & Co. for the erection of a two-story frame building at Marstown, one mile east of lower Pine Grove, south of the Pine Grove-Rock public road, at a cost of \$2,460. This edifice contains two rooms, grammar and primary grades respectively. The polling place for southern Pine Grove Twp. is also here. These teachers have taught in these schools: Lester P. Zimmerman, Ellen Zimmerman, Ethel Werner, Lillie Yocum, Lydia Deaven, George J. Wagner, Miriam Readinger, John M. Zimmerman, Mary Brommer, Mabel Greenawalt, Helen C. Williams, LaVerna M. Metzgar, Ida Haldeman, Olive Lewars, Howard S. Moyer, Clara M. Schneck, Mildred E. Williams.

School No. 6 at Cherryville

No school facilities were had in the Cherryville or Ravine region until about 1867. The children attended the school at Harveystown up to this time. Now the directors of the district schools bought a church building vacated by the United Brethren congregation. This house was afterward remodeled into a home and is at present occupied by the families of Wm. Rump and Thos. Wenrich. This school house was used for school until 1883, when a new frame building was constructed on a lot bought from Grove Sherman. Some of the teachers in the old school were: Singleton Hikes, Mr. Boyer, Mr. Umberger, Mr. Troutman, Ella Heinbach, Annie Kirk, John Salen, John Miller, Allen Manmiller, Lizzie Williams, Ada Bossler, Jonathan Fidler, Reuben Aungst.

The new frame building was a one-room school until 1895, when it became the room for the grammar grades and an addition was made for the primary grades. It is still in use, and the following teachers served: Rufus Felty, Isaac Sotzin, J. P. Moore, Will Herring, L. F. McDonough, Josiah Christ, Levi Herring, Mary Devaney, Chas. M. Keeny, Eva Schlappich, Hattie Meck, Frank Smith, Clara Wenrich, Jacob Schucker, Merle P. Horn, Esther Ney, John Schrope, Frank M. Gaul, Mary Loy.

Mary Monahan, Wm. Shollenberger, Robert Spancake, Madeline Hughes, Rebecca Kern, Esther Greenawalt, Mabel Greenawalt, Mary P. Brennan, Earnest Spittler, Wilson Lewars, Martha Spittler, Mrs. Amanda Palmer, Mrs. Roy Angst, Wm. H. Smith, Hilda Ossman, Verna C. Peiffer, Stella Stein, Helen C. Kinsinger, Lillian Thompson, Nathan Morgan, Naomi Artz, Annie Netherwood, Estella Netherwood.

Pleasant Hill School No. 7

About 1879 the old school house here was removed and a new edifice erected. This is a single room frame building which has been in continuous use for school. These are the teachers: Wm. Merrell, Louis Hummel, Annie Netherwood, Harry M. Jones, Lyman Stupp, Wm. H. Haldeman, Elmer Keeny, Elias Berger, Lester P. Zimmerman, Chas. Lehman, Mr. Kembal, Lyman Schrope, Frances Hummel, Mary Garis, Stella Hughes, Lewis Zeigler, Earnest Spittler, Miriam Readinger, Wm. J. Reinhard, Franklin Brommer, Mrs. Beulah Readinger, Ethel M. Russell, Mrs. Annie Seibert, Mrs. Marie Zimmers.

School No. 8 at Stanhope

In 1876 a one-room brick school house was built near and south of Stanhope Station. This building was destroyed by fire on Oct. 22, 1923, while school was in progress. The following year a new frame edifice was erected, by Charles Werner & Co., at a cost of \$3,440. This school building was constructed according to specifications submitted by the State Department of Public Instruction, and was the first of this kind in this section of the country.

The following teachers served here: Rufus Felty, Samuel Fidler, Isaac Sotzin, Louis Hummel, Iva Hughes, Oscar Barr, Wm. H. Smith, John Schlappich, John H. Angst, Irwin F. Strouphar, George J. Wagner, John A. Schrope, David V. Zimmerman, Miss Hubert, Harry Heinbach, Allen Fehr, Francis Zimmerman, Lester P. Zimmerman, Madeline Hughes, Lena Barr, Stella Hughes, Lydia Deaven, Esther Greenawalt, John M. Zimmerman, Miriam Readinger, Jean Roberts.

School No. 9 Paradise

About 1874, school discontinued in the old school house on the corner

where Elias Kintzel's home now is, and a new brick building was erected where the present frame structure now is found. The northern end was blown in 1879, while the school term was in progress. This brick edifice was repaired and retained until 1891, when it was torn away and replaced by a frame building which is in use at present.

The primary room was added to the one-room building in 1910, by Frank Wheeler, at a cost of \$839. Since that time the school was graded. The following teachers served in these schools: Louis Hummel, Wm. E. Merrill, L. G. E. Felty, Jacob Schucker, Wm. Berger, Elias Berger, Lyman Stupp, Harry Stine, Amos Zerbe, Jeremiah Heffner, Eva J. Schlappich, George J. Wagner, Lewis Herring, Mr. Kembel, L. F. McDonough, Viola Haldeman, Lyman Schrope, Mary Garis, Madeline Hughes.

Calvin Zerbe, Katie M. Garis, Lillie Yocum, Chas. M. Keeny, Robert Spancake, Wm. Schollenberger, Esther Garis, Miriam Readinger, Wm. H. Smith, Esther Greenawalt, Martha Spittler, Olive Lewars, Ida Haldeman, M. Lucille Barr, David Zimmerman.

Pleasant Valley School No. 10

The children of Pleasant Valley at first went to the Paradise school, but in 1879 the present school room now used for grammar grades was built as a one-room edifice. The house now tenanted by Mrs. James Templing, just having been completed, was used for a school until the new school house was constructed. To this frame building was added, in 1906, an addition to the rear for primary grades. This new wing was built by Contractor Frank Wheeler for \$1156.

The names of the teachers were as follows: Louis Hummel, Reuben Aungst, L. F. McDonough, Ella Johnson, Frank Smith, Chas. M.

Keeny, Elias Berger, Lyman Stupp, John Schrope, George J. Wagner, Edna Stine, Estella Netherwood, Mary Garis, Louis Herring, Frances Hummel, Lena Barr, Wm. Schollenberger, Alice V. Haley, Gertrude G. Haley, Allen Fehr.

Upper Swatara Valley School No. 11

The one-room frame school house near Exmoor was erected in 1897, by Daniel Schwartz, at a cost of \$615. School was held since that time, the teachers who taught here were: Millie Bailor, Frank Smith, Elmer Keeny, George Smith, Lydia Groh, Estella Netherwood, Jeremiah Heffner, Minnie Loeb, Harold Hummel, Lena Barr, Frances Hummel, Alvin Hummel, Claude Lehman, Alma Leffler, Rebecca Kern, Mary Stine, L. F. McDonough, Mrs. Robert Kreis, Mary E. Gilbert, Mrs. Mary G. Wynn, Mrs. Merle B. Hooven, Merle A. Bohner.

Annex School

When the school located at Strongville, or later called Harveys-town, was vacated, a frame building was built in what later was annexed to Pine Grove. This school house was erected in 1883, and later a wing was added for a primary school. In 1912, the directors of Pine Grove Twp. sold the building and lot to the borough school district for a consideration of one dollar. Now the building is being used as a milk plant.

The following were some of the teachers who served here: Sallie McFadden, Louis Hummel, Lillie Wilcox, L. F. McDonough, Chas. M. Keeny, Wm. H. Smith, Ella Johnson, Kathryn Lorenz, Mary Monahan, David Zimmerman, Alma Leffler, Hattie Meck, Estella Netherwood.

Because Pine Grove Twp. School District had to depend only on its farmers and laboring class of people

for its tax resources, the length of its school term and the salary of its teachers were the minimum allowed by the State, and are so to the present time.

The equipment for school purposes at first was discouraging. Often only one child, out of a class of a dozen or more, had a textbook, but in 1899, the use of the free text-books supplied by the district school board and paid from the district funds, started. This meant much to the poorer class of people and gave the rural schools a needed advantage.

In 1899, the minimum length of the school term became seven months, in 1921 it became a seven and one-half months term, and in 1922 it was extended to an eight months term. Some of the farmers who failed to see the need of better school facilities complained at first, when the school term was lengthened. The rural schools have been helped much by laws which extended the term of school, improved school equipment and the qualification of the teacher; but the rural school children do not yet have an educational advantage equal to the children in districts better favored financially.

Wm. J. Fisher, P. B. Donmoyer, I. F. Stroupbauer, John A. Aunsbach, John A. Schneck, Robert Zimmerman, Geo. O. Greenawalt, Sylvester Haas, Elias Berger, Wm. O. Schaefer, Chas. I. Donmoyer, Jas. Shollenberger, John H. Angst, Jacob Lehman, Edwin Olt, Samuel Schnoke, Elias Keeny, Abraham Clements, Elias E. Mease, James Yocum, Harry Smith, Wm. Werner, Edw. Mayberry, John P. Fegley, Wm. Zerbe, Wm. Lafayette Zerbe, Wm. Stout, Wm. Sotzin were members of the Pine Grove Township School Board at different times. At one time, there were

six Williams on the Board of Directors.

The State Department of Education had decreed that any child having completed the requirements of the eighth grade and passing the examination for high school entrance may attend a high school and the tuition be paid out of the district funds. Pine Grove Township School District, for this purpose, will have paid more than \$32,250 by the end of this school term, to the Pine Grove Borough School District, as tuition, for children from the township who attend the Pine Grove Borough High School. Besides Pine Grove Township school district has paid the Good Shepherd Home, of Allentown, Pa.; Deaf and Dumb Institute, of Philadelphia, Pa.; Bethany and Tipton Orphan Home; Odd Fellows Orphan Home, Sunbury, Pa.; and Tremont Township School District the sum of \$1,875.

The present board of directors of Pine Grove Township schools is Ottis Rehner, Pres.; Lyman Stupp, Secty.; Chas. Herring, Treas.; David Fidler, Vice Pres.; and the other member is Richard Barr.

The township has at present sixteen schools, five of which are grammar schools. The enrollment at present is 562 and eighty-one attending the Pine Grove High School.

The present teachers of Pine Grove Township public schools are: Wm. H. Smith, Chas. M. Keeny, David Zimmerman, Howard Moyer, Allen F. Fehr, Emma Ney, Edna Zerbe, Nathan Morgan, Miriam Readinger, Gertrude Haley, Mrs. Marie Zimmers, Mildred Williams, H. Corrine Kinsinger, Judith Stauffer, Merle Bohner, and Lillian Thompson.

The Berger Homestead

This estate in whole and in part dates back to the early days of our country's history, when things were more or less dimly outlined and vaguely sectionalized. The first grant of this place, bears the signature of John Penn, son of the founder of this great Commonwealth. The next grant bears more definite knowledge, for records show that Jacob Dundore received grant and possession on October 12, 1754. This was more than fifty years before Schuylkill County was formed. He remained in possession till 1783, when he sold it to Valentine Heberling. In 1785 Jacob Heberling became owner and he in turn, on January 16, 1795, sold it to William Shertel. Later his only daughter, Elizabeth Shertel, fell heir to the property. She married Thos. Berger. Three children survived: Elizabeth, Esther, and Wm. Berger, who in turn fell heir to the estate. Elizabeth Berger received the part now occupied by the Pennsylvania Power and Light Company Plant, Hallton and the Stroupbauer property, etc. Esther received the property now owned by William Stump, etc. William Berger received the portion known since as the Berger Farm. He carried on from 1854 to 1907, when the estate was bought by Elias and Wm. H. Berger, sons of Wm. Berger. In 1916, Elias Berger became the owner of the property and is in charge at the present time.

In its early days Indians roamed the district and many arrow heads, cut out of stone, have been found on the farm. Virgin forests covered the land and trees four feet in diameter nearly a hundred feet high were among the stately pines. Three streams cross the place, and the land flattened out between low-flung hills made good farming land. Timber was abundant and a water-power saw-mill was in operation

before 1783, for the deed conveying the property at this time mentions it. This was followed by a stone flour and feed mill.

The homestead is one of the oldest in this region, evidently built by Jacob Dundore for his residence when he settled here in 1754. It is constructed of heavy oak logs hardened by age. The doors were very heavy, being riveted inside and outside, making them about four inches thick. They were in two sections—upper and lower—so as to afford special protection for defense. Window sills also were heavy oak and strong-hinged shutters barred them. Built in the days of Indians and other dangers, necessitated a strong and well constructed house for defense against sudden attack.

The old homestead in years gone by was ever a center of industry and sociability. For generations it was a happy place with varied and joyful occasions.

Letter Tells of Early Days

The following letter written in 1916 tells something of customs a century ago:

"Sometime ago while reading an article on "Bellows," my thoughts went back some seventy years to a large pleasant old-fashioned farm house not far from Pine Grove, where things were done in grand style. Here I had the pleasure of visiting often when I was a child and here I spent some of my happiest days.

"There was a large kitchen without a stove or carpet, with a fireplace at one end big enough for three or four dinner pots to hang in a row (such as are only known nowadays as Gypsy kettles) with room enough for a pan with a long handle, and three long legs, and for a tripod.

"At one side on the hearth was a nice square block set on end for the little folks to sit on, called the cat's

chair, or the 'feuer gletzel'. On the left-hand side of the fireplace hung the bellows, more useful than ornamental, I thought, compared with the handsome pair in the sitting room.

"I often sat on a little wooden bench near enough to watch the process of cooking, sometimes with a basket of walnuts which always stood near for everyone to help themselves. But boiling coffee and frying sausage in the pan on the tripod always interested me.

"The coffee boiler was like the dinner pot but not as large. It was hung over the fire until it boiled, then set down close to the fire so it would simmer gently; the coffee stirred in and the cover put on. Then one of the girls would disappear through the trap-door with a cup and spoon to bring the cream. The boiler was drawn away from the fire and the cream stirred in, settling the coffee and giving it a beautiful color. Then came the interesting part of pouring it out into the can. They held the boiler with one hand, then took hold of one of its feet with a chip. It looked very simple and I thought I would like to try it.

"Fresh sausage was always cooked whole no matter what length if the pan would hold it, but when smoked, it was cut into short pieces before it was put in the pan, then poured into a large flat dish for the table.

"All were expected to help themselves at the table, even children if they were not too small. The table was set in the large living room. It was not an extension table but it was a large one, and sometimes made to extend by adding one or more tables to it during haymaking or harvesting. At such times the bright tin coffee can was too small and there was a beautiful copper one in its place, shaped like a tea-kettle, the inside lined with tin and

the outside as bright as a new dollar.

"It was the custom for one of the daughters to wait on the table and pour out the coffee, generally Hetty, the eldest, a beautiful girl, always neatly dressed for the occasion. She went through it all with modest grace and dignity. I think I can see her now as she passed through the long room bearing that bright coffee kettle in her strong shapely hands. She was a rare girl, such as are not often found in a country farm house.

"Customs have changed since then. There was a cup and saucer at the side of each plate and the cups were filled before the seats were taken. Sugar bowl and teaspoons were put in the center of the table."

Early Social Gatherings

A social gathering known as apple-paring party, or snitz party, but in the Pennsylvania German districts as "Shale Match," was very popular in its day. When a farmer who had a lot of apples decided to cook apple-butter, he planned one of these parties. The young people of both sexes were invited, and when the evening selected arrived, assembled and apple-peeling and apple-paring began. After this was done the room was cleaned and games were played.

The corn-husking bee was a great favorite years ago, several were held in recent years. When a farmer was ready to husk his corn, he set a date and invited the young people of the community. The young people husked in pairs, and whenever a red ear of corn was found the lucky one was entitled to a kiss from his partner. The hostess furnished good and sumptuous meals. After supper was over and everything cleaned up, games were played.

The sleighing party was another good old time indulged in by our grandparents when they were young. Two horses, and sometimes four, would be hitched in a big sleigh for this purpose. The sleigh was packed with young couples who enjoyed themselves in fun and singing.

PROMINENT RESIDENTS

Frederick Schnoke who is claimed to have been the first settler of Pine Grove Township was born in 1737, and died in 1826. He had one child named Michael. Michael had two sons, Michael and John, and three daughters. John Jacob Schnoke had four sons, Jonathan, John Jacob, George, Henry and two daughters.

Jonathan Schnoke was born 1828 and died 1910. He had six sons who grew to manhood as follows: George, Samuel, Daniel, Henry, Isaac and Hiram. Hiram is a blacksmith and is well versed in historical data. He has traveled extensively.

Samuel Schnoke had three boys, Milton, Henry and Raymond, also six daughters. Raymond lives on the old Schnoke homestead having two sons and five daughters thus six generations have been in continuous possession of this historical home.

Uriah H. Miller

Uriah Henry Miller was born in Berks County on Aug. 4, 1856. After his marriage to Miss Elizabeth Aungst he moved to Pine Grove Twp., and lived there until his death, Aug. 26, 1931.

He was a carpenter by trade, and many barns and other large buildings throughout this region for many miles were built by him and under his supervision. He was very

exact in his work. He lived on a farm which he worked for many years.

Early in his life he acquired rudiments of music. As an instructor both in instrumental and vocal music he was very exact. He never had an instructor in instrumental music, acquiring the art by his own skill. He was choir leader and organist at Hetzel's Church for fifty-two years.

He had a large family with the following children: Cora, Uriah, Emma, Ida, Stella, William, Jacob, Harrison and Ella.

Elias N. Keeny

Elias N. Keeny was born on Oct. 18, 1835, and his wife, Isabella Moyer, on June 30, 1841. Mr. Keeny was a farmer and lived in the lower end of Swope's Valley. He was much interested in education, and served as a member of the Pine Grove Township School Board for a number of years, serving in that capacity when he died on Dec. 6, 1895. They had the following children: Peter M., a graduate of Kutztown State Teachers' College, taught school in Pine Grove Township and Pine Grove Borough for twenty-six years; John H., is a blacksmith; Sallie; Kate who died in infancy; Elmer also a teacher for several years; Charles M., a teacher having taught for twenty-six years.

The Lengel Family

Paul Lengel was born April 20, 1806, and Annie Marie Snyder, his wife, was born on Jan. 25, 1807. Both were born at DeTurksville, Washington Twp. Mr. Lengel took much interest in the affairs of the county serving both as a County Commissioner and Poor Director. He had two sons, Wm. S. and George Washington, and six daughters. He died at the age of fifty-five years.

Wm. S. Lengel was a School Director for five terms in Pine Grove and Washington Twps. He had seven sons: Albert, Paul, Thomas, Elias, Charles, Wilkes and Edward; and eight daughters. Paul was engaged in the timber business until his death, when his son, Guy, took it in hand. Guy was a candidate last election for the office of County Sheriff. Thos. W. Lengel was elected to the Township Board at the age of 28. He had ten daughters and one son.

The Lengels have a record dating from 1735 to the present, comprising eight generations. They were farmers, belonged to the Lutheran Church, and staunch Democrats taking much interest in the doings of their party.

Nelson Napp

Nelson Napp was born in Berks County, in 1840, and removed to Pine Grove Twp. while a small boy. He married Susanna Beck, of Berks County, in 1864. He was for many years a timber agent for the mines of Miller, Graeff & Company, operating at Rausch Creek. Mr. Napp served in the Civil War, and was honorably discharged. He lived in Swope's Valley and followed farming until his death a few years ago.

Capt. Hans Christeson

Capt. Hans Christeson was born in Denmark, in 1825, and came to New York in 1859. He was married to Louisa Weir, 1860. He moved to Pine Grove in 1861, and to what is now Suedburg in 1868; was merchant at Pine Grove, and a merchant and hotel keeper at Suedburg until his death on June 27, 1878. In his early life he followed the sea, having command of a ship.

John D. Felty

John Degler Felty, son of Rev. John D. Felty and his wife Elizabeth Degler, was born in Upper Mahantongo Township on Nov. 16,

1835. Later his parents moved to Pine Grove Township to farm north of Oak Swamp, about a mile west of North Pine Grove Station. On Aug. 24, 1872, he married Emma Rehrer. This union was blessed with the following children: Mary, James, Sallie, Clara, John, Sadie, and Ralph. Mr. Felty died Nov. 21, 1895.

Mr. Felty was a prominent church worker and liked much in the community in which he lived. He conducted a large farm, and for many years operated what then was known as "The Felty Mine" located about a mile south of Rausch Creek.

Levi F. McDonough

Levi F. McDonough was born in Bethel Township, Berks County, Pa., on Feb. 25, 1859.

The family removed to Pine Grove Township, east of Ravine, about three years later. He attended the public schools of the township, and afterwards completed the high school course in Pine Grove High School under the late Prof. G. W. Channel then Supervising Principal. Later he attended the Millersville State Normal School for several terms. He taught in the schools of the county for forty-five and a fraction terms, all but two in Pine Grove Township. He has been holding the office of Justice of the Peace since May 1885; has been a land surveyor for many years and during that time did some work for the county in serving as surveyor in laying out half a dozen new roads in the county; served as Lieutenant in the Pine Grove National Guard for a number of years.

On Nov. 8, 1889, he was married to Alice S. Wagner, of Philadelphia. They have five children, all of which have been teaching. Virginia, Mrs. E. E. Mason, and Hannah C. are graduates of the Keystone State Normal School; Donald L. is a Ph. D., and Laura a M. A. from

University of Pennsylvania, and Stewart holds the degree of B. S. from Temple University.

Rev. George S. Smith

Rev. Geo. S. Smith was born in Hanover Twp., Dauphin County, Pa., on Sept. 25, 1826. When a young man he learned and worked at the blacksmith trade. Later he became the preacher in the United Brethren Church, of Pine Grove. He next affiliated with the German Baptist Denomination and became their first pastor in this vicinity serving them from 1877 to 1885. It is said that he was a forceful preacher. He died Jan. 20, 1894.

He was married to Rebecca Barr, daughter of Paul Barr.

It is said that Mrs. Smith was the first woman to ride on the train between Auburn and Pine Grove. They had four children: William, George, Mary and Harry. Harry later became interested in the automobile business in the Annex.

Edward Hummel

Edward Hummel was the son of Benneville and Louise (Zerbe) Hummel, was born in Washington Township on April 29, 1853. He died in Pine Grove on Jan. 11, 1914.

The family of which Mr. Hummel was a member was among the pioneer settlers of this part of the county; his grandfather, John Hummel, was born in Berks County, in 1776 and removed when a young man to Washington Township. He served in the War of 1812.

Edward Hummel was reared and given the advantage of a common school education as taught in the rural districts. He was a student, showed a great liking for books, made rapid progress, and at the age of 16 was granted a certificate to teach by County Superintendent Jesse B. Newlin. He taught one term in Washington Township and many terms in Pine Grove Township. He was known as a good

teacher and a strict disciplinarian. With his earnings he managed to attend several terms at Palatinate College at Myerstown, Pa.

By heredity being a democrat, he had that party in his deepest interest. At the age of 21 he was elected constable of Pine Grove Township, and the following year as Justice of the Peace, which office he held for 15 years. In 1882 he was given the nomination for legislature on the democratic ticket, and although the district was strongly republican he was elected by a good majority. He again received the nomination in 1884. He moved into the Borough in 1891 and became proprietor in his time of the Eagle, Central and Hotel Pennsylvania. In 1906-1908 he was chief clerk to the County Commissioners. He also served for years on the Borough School Board.

Fraternally he was identified with I. O. O. F. Lodge 148, Order of I. A., Knights of M. C. and P. O. S. of A.

Mr. Hummel was married to Mary E. Spancake. The union was blessed with 11 children, the following of whom are living: E. Bessie, Oscar E., Amy I., Stella, Cora, Frances, Raymond and Harold.

Moses R. Hughes

Moses Robison Hughes, son of David and Mary Hughes, was born at Manada, Dauphin County, on Nov. 3, 1846. In 1869 he was married to Adelia Stein, of Pine Grove Township. He then moved to Harrisburg, where he resided for several years where he was employed as a coachman. Next he moved to Pine Grove Township on a farm near Oak Grove, where he lived until his death on May 23, 1920. He was the father of twelve children, five boys and seven girls.

He worked at the carpenter trade, and in his earlier years was employed at the Kalmia mines under Capt. Frazer. After that until his

death he worked at Lincoln Colliery as carpenter. His kindly bearing toward his fellowmen won the respect and esteem of everybody. In his religious life he was upright and faithful. He was superintendent and teacher of the Oak Grove Sunday School for many years.

Israel H. Hummel

Israel H. Hummel, son of William and Sarah, nee Wenrich Hummel, was born in Pine Grove Township, on March 25, 1858. On Dec. 18, 1880, he was married to Emma Neidlinger. The union was blessed with the following children: Maggie, Carrie, Emma, Robert, Lizzie, Alvin, William and Eva. He died July 18, 1929.

Fraternally he was affiliated with the Odd Fellows, Red Men and Junior Order of Independent Americans. In 1899 he was elected constable of the township, and was re-elected every time until his death in 1929. He became Tax Collector in 1901 and served in that capacity until 1929.

Wm. T. Mars

William Tingel Mars was born on Feb. 22, 1805. His parents were Scotch-Irish and landed in Lancaster County. His father left for the War of 1812, but never returned leaving the widow with four children, three boys and one girl, of whom William was the oldest.

Due to the breaking up of the family, William was taken by Jacob Bean until about the age of fourteen when he was given to a cabinet maker by the name of Brotherline, of Jonestown, Pa., for apprenticeship. After serving three years and nine months, he received twelve and one-half cents and a cheap suit of clothing. Next he worked as journeyman for Mr. Brotherline for several years, after which he worked with the engineers

in the construction of the Union Canal. After this work was completed, he became walking boss traveling from Jonestown to Pine Grove several times a week to inspect the canal. On his first trip from Jonestown to Pine Grove on arriving at Georgetown, which was composed of two or three houses, he inquired the distance to Pine Grove. A woman told him she had never heard of such a place, but out here about three miles is a small place called "Bara Shstettel" meaning Barrstown.

He married Margaret Weaver and moved on the Canal farm now known as Samuel Loy's farm, started the cabinet business, later moved to the place now occupied by John Mars where he followed the cabinet and undertaking business. When he retired in 1873, he handed his business over to his two sons, Wm. and George. His children were Mary, Caroline, Harry, William, Geo. W., Sarah and Eliza. He died in 1892. William and George also taught several years school.

John H. Angst, a grandson, attended Kutztown and Lock Haven Teachers' Colleges and taught ten terms in the public schools. He then became a clerk in the Pine Grove Bank, and in 1900 when John F. Werntz, the owner, died, took charge of the bank. His children were Roy who attended the Naval Academy at Annapolis, and graduated from Muhlenburg College, and is a teacher by profession; Minerva, living at Tremont and married to Walter Smith, a dealer in automobiles; Mabel, a graduate of Gouger College, is married to Wm. G. Greene, of Philadelphia; Mary, who is married to John Thomas, is a graduate of Hood's College; and Della, after completing her studies at Hood's College took up the study of Law at Dickinson College.

Aaron Capp

Aaron Capp was born in Hanover, Pa., on Jan. 29, 1831. His father was a stern school teacher, but Aaron and his brothers took up the carpenter trade.

Aaron came to Pine Grove Twp. when a young man, married Hannah Lehr, and built a house in Swatara Valley. After living here several years, he bought a farm from Jacob Barr, near Beuchler Station. He resided here until his death, on March 24, 1890.

He had two children: Wm. Washington who died in infancy, and Malinda who married Wm. H. Smith, Sr.

He was a staunch member of the Jacob's Church and trustee for many years, a teacher and treasurer in the Sunday School continuously for a number of years.

Lyman Stupp

Lyman Stupp, son of Henry and Mary Stupp, was born on Feb. 22, 1870, in Pine Grove Township. He attended the public schools of the township and later the Kutztown Teachers' College. He took up the profession of teaching and taught eleven terms in the township. He is much interested in the schools, has been a member of the board of education for the last sixteen years, and secretary of the same for thirteen years. At present he resides on a farm on Pleasant Hill.

Abraham and John Lehr

Abraham and John, sons of Henry Lehr and wife Mary whose father, Adam Minnick was an early settler in Pine Grove Township, attended the schools of their neighborhood. When the Civil War broke out both enlisted.

John was only a youth when he enlisted, from Pine Grove, on Feb. 8, 1862, joining Company G, 107th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, for three years. On Feb. 28, 1864, he was discharged, but the same

day re-enlisted in the same company and regiment and served to the close of the war. After his discharge July 13, 1865, he took up his trade as carpenter, but later became a miner. He took much interest in civic and religious duties, having served in numerous township offices, and a faithful officer and member of the St. Paul's Reformed Church, of Ravine. He was the father of J. Thomas Lehr who taught school for a number of years and is at present in business in Philadelphia.

Abraham enlisted with his brother, John, and served to the end of the war. He was employed by the Miller Coal Co., operating near Lincoln, for many years as a contractor. He married Eliza Krebs and had a large family, of which one son William became a teacher. He resided near Beuchler Station most of his life time.

Singleton Hikes

Singleton Hikes was born in May, 1823, near York Springs. When a young man, in 1846, he moved to Pine Grove Twp., from Landisburg, Perry County, spending the rest of his life here, dying Aug. 26, 1904. Though a farmer he was occupied principally at his trade, that of carpenter, until he died. No man in his community was more sincerely respected. He was a devoted religious worker of the United Brethren Church, and one of the oldest Sunday School superintendents in this locality. Having taught school for some time he was ably fitted for his work as a church worker and member of the township school board. In 1849 he married Catharine Harvey. They were blessed with the following children. Sarah, John Calvin, Isaac, Morris W., Howard and Walter.

Morris W. Hikes

Morris W. Hikes was born in Pine Grove Twp., Jan. 26, 1862.

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Here he spent his youth and later attended the State Normal School at Millersville. For eight years he was engaged in teaching. In 1890 he commenced the painting and paper hanging business and conducted same up to his death. He was much interested in welfare of the community for more than 20 years. He was a justice of the peace for many years, and then became a notary public.

John B. Stein

John B. Stein, whose great great grandfather Johannes Sebastian Stein emigrated from near Meissenheim, Germany, in 1748, was born January 1, 1823, in Pine Grove Twp. He died on March 14, 1896. He was married to Margaret Klahr, and had three children: Gustina married to John Mayberry; Adelia who married Moses R. Hughes, and Levi. Levi was one of the jurors drawn in that famous trial at Pottsville when a number of the Molly McGuires were tried. He became ill while on duty and died during the trial.

John Stein was a farmer and was noted for the fine treatment he accorded his hired people. He was a faithful member of the Jacob's Church, helping to promote and support it.

Daniel Harvey

Daniel Harvey, once a farmer in Pine Grove Township north of Pine Grove Borough then known as Harveystown, was born in Reading, Nov. 4, 1823, and removed to Pine Grove Twp. in his youth. He married Matilda Shreckengast, of Lebanon County, in 1849. From 1861 to 1875 he was outside superintendent of the Rausch Creek Coal Co. He served in numerous township offices.

William Schultz

William Schultz, the son of John and Leah Schultz, was born in

Llewellyn, Branch Twp. in 1849. He died on Thursday, Oct. 2, 1930.

He was a resident of Pine Grove Twp. for more than forty years. He conducted successfully for many years, the large farm north of Pine Grove, in which he took much delight and keen interest, in raising fine cattle and horses; his chief business interest, however, lay in his extensive timber operations, which covered a vast area, along the Schuylkill and Susquehanna Railroad, in corners of Schuylkill, Lebanon and Dauphin Counties, which he conducted for many years.

He was married twice, and had the following children: Mrs. John Schlappich, Mrs. Frank Evans and John Schultz. He spent his last days retired on his estate one mile north of Pine Grove.

Aaron F. Spittler

Aaron F. Spittler was born in Swatara Valley, Pine Grove Twp., on April 7, 1876. At the age of 23 he became Township Clerk and later Secretary and Treasurer. For many years he served as a road supervisor. He carried on farming for the last thirty years. In 1912 he was appointed as caretaker of the state roads, and has served as such ever since. He has at present supervision over the state and township public roads. A few years ago he was appointed as construction foreman by the State Highway Department having charge of roads under construction. He is a very capable man and all this responsibility makes him a very busy man. On Sept. 2, 1900 he married Miss Lottie Stout. They had nine children, the oldest, Earnest, is assistant cashier of the Pine Grove National Bank.

Wm. H. Stout

William Henry Stout was born at Nazareth, Northampton County, on Oct. 18, 1840. Although he had only three months schooling in a Ger-

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man school, he became a figure not only known throughout our state but also other states.

As a young man he clerked in a store in Freemansburg, near Bethlehem. He next went to Williamsport and became a lumber salesman. In March 1876 he moved to Pine Grove Twp., in what is now called Paradise, on a farm which he took in exchange for lumber. He continued as a lumber salesman for several years and then became an agriculturalist. He had one of the first peach orchards in this section and the first orchard scientifically conducted. He became a member of the State Board of Agriculture of which he was the oldest member and the longest in service having

served some forty years. He also became a state lecturer, lecturing extensively throughout this state as well as others on agricultural problems. He was the first to introduce tilling for low lands in this part of the county. Bee raising was one of his hobbies. He took much interest in the education of youth and served as school director. He was a member of the historical society of Pine Grove. He was interested in fossils, ferns, plants as well as rocks and other forms of nature.

On Feb. 9, 1862 he married Anna Matilda Walters, of Easton, Pa. This union was blessed with seven children. He died on Oct. 19, 1928, at the age of 88 years.

Ryan Township Named for Judge

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* November 16-19, 1934)

(By East Mahanoy Junction School, James E. Mathews, Teacher)

Ryan Township was organized in 1868 from territory previously embraced in Rush and Mahanoy Townships. It had a population of 600 in 1870, the first census after its organization. It was named in honor of Judge James Ryan, of Pottsville. This township is of irregular outline and lies in the eastern part of the county, between the upper and lower Schuylkill coal fields. It is bounded on the north by Mahanoy and West Mahanoy Townships, on the east by Rush, on the south by Schuylkill and on the west by Blythe.

The first settlers within the present limits of Ryan Township were the Dreshes and Heasings, (names of German origin), who came from Berks County about 1784. During that year David Dresh erected the first log house, on what is now known as the Jacob Klingerman farm. Following Mr. Klingerman's demise in 1926, his son, Guy, operated the farm for a few years and then disposed of it to Jos. Boyer, the present owner. This farm is located in Locust Valley on the road from Tuscarora to Mahanoy City. On this farm David Dresh planted the first orchard in the township. A man named Stauffer, also of Berks County, moved to this farm in 1811, succeeding Dresh. John Feller lived early on the Chas. F. Blew farm. John Faust, George Focht and a man named Kregler were also early comers. Others now well known came later, among whom were Chas. F. Blew, Jonas Bankes, D. D. Mes-

serschmidt, Henry Blew, William Schlier, Jonas Shoup, Hiram Wentz, David Klingerman, Edmund Ellis, Conrad Guers, Henry Haas, Samuel Hoffman, Jacob Garber, Patrick Delany, Wm. Heidenreich, Wm. Maschal, Wm. Weaver, J. J. Walborn, Chas. Seddon, Henry Snyder, Wm. H. Hoffman, W. Kraus, Gustave Roth, Daniel Farley, E. Keller, Jos. Mathews, John Gastager and Jas. Mellon. Practically all of the early comers were engaged in lumbering and farming.

The Mills

Henry and Johnathan Haas operated a saw mill on what was known as the saw mill road, now abandoned, leading from the Murphy farm to the James Mellon farm now owned by Frank Smulligan. Part of the breast of this dam still remains. Henry Snyder operated a mill near the head of Locust Valley. Jonas Bankes and D. D. Messerschmidt also owned saw mills. Some of these mills were up and down mills and worked somewhat like a jig saw, cutting only on the down stroke. At the present time two mills of the circular saw type are in operation, one on the Ellis farm and one on the Chas. Mathews farm.

Jeremiah Messerschmidt was the pioneer carpet weaver of the township.

CHURCHES

The Rev. Shellhart, prominently identified with the early religious

history of Tamaqua and vicinity, and Rev. Kroll, one of the founders of the old "White Church" in Rush Township, were the pioneer preachers in the Township. They held primitive meetings in a log house owned by David Dresh on the Klingerman farm. Chas. F. Blew organized the first Sunday School in Locust Valley in a house owned at the present time by Chas. E. Faust; David A. Blew was the first superintendent.

The oldest church and for many years the only one is St. Peter's Union Church which is situated in Locust Valley on the road from Tuscarora to Mahanoy City. This church was built in 1848 by Levi F. Blew, John Schlier and a Mr. Faust, Chas. Faust was the first child baptized in the church in 1848. The first pastor of the union congregation was Rev. David Hasinger. He was succeeded by Rev. Shellhammer of Tomhicken Valley, near Ringtown, and Rev. J. Hartman. This church was rebuilt and remodeled in 1899, the funds being contributed by the farmers of the Valley, who have sustained and perpetuated the organization. The ministers at the present time are Rev. Frank Kulp (Lutheran) of Quakake and Rev. Arthur Schaeffer (Reformed) of Tamaqua. Sunday School is also held in this church, George Scharr is the present superintendent, John Augustine is assistant superintendent. The cemetery adjoining the church contains the remains of many of the earliest pioneers.

In 1897 Klingerman's School, one of the original four school houses of the township, was removed to a lot given by Jacob Klingerman. It was remodeled and converted into a church known as Grace United Evangelical Church. The first pastor of this church was J. G. Rosenberger and the superintendent of

the Sunday School was Wm. Sommersville.

For many years this church prospered and had quite a large congregation, but after the death of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Klingerman, who were two of its most ardent supporters, the congregation gradually dwindled away until the church finally became non-supporting and was finally razed in 1933. The lumber of this church was taken to Quakake where it was used in the construction of a house for a needy family.

In 1933 a new church, known as Park Crest Church, was erected at Park Crest. At the present time no regular minister has charge, but Rev. Evans of Park Crest supplied on a number of occasions. The superintendent of the Sunday School is Thos. Bair. The membership at the present time averages about 100. The first service was held the Sunday prior to Christmas. The cost of this church was about \$2,500 and it was built under the direction of the Park Crest Builders, many of the residents of the village giving their time gratis. Some of the furnishings from Grace United Evangelical Church at Locust Valley were removed to this church.

SCHOOLS

The first school in what is now Ryan Township was built by Isaac A. Blew in 1854. The first teacher was Henry S. Strong, who afterward moved to Donaldson, Schuylkill County.

Mrs. Chas. F. Blew, now a resident of Barnesville, distinctly remembers attending this school. She commenced in 1855. Her teachers were Isaac A. Blew, Wm. Bachert and John Hessler. This school was on the south side of the road leading from Reichard's Hotel (now Delany's Farm) to Feggertsville.

Another school was held in the old stone house on the Deem Farm in Locust Valley. These were probably the first free schools in the township, as Rush Township of which Ryan was a part rejected the public school system until 1851. Prior to this time the schools were known as subscription schools, each pupil paying a portion of the teacher's salary, which averaged from \$8 to \$12 per month. The teachers boarded around, staying for a week or so at a time with the patrons of the school.

In 1868, the year of the organization of the township, four schools were in operation, Klingerman's, Walborn's, Messerschmidt, and Tunnel.

The first school board elected after the organization of the township in 1868 were as follows: Henry Blew, Pres.; Adam S. Haas, Secy.; Isaac A. Blew, Treas.; Henry Mauer, Henry Snyder, Henry Faust. Adam S. Haas, the secretary was succeeded by Isaac A. Blew, and his successor was Joel C. Lance. Some of the board meetings were held in the different school houses and some at the public house of Henry Blew, now the John Hutira Farm.

The rate of taxation was 10 mills; amount of duplicate was \$925.58; length of term was 4 months; teacher's salary—male, \$45; female, \$28, per month.

The first teacher, term of 1868-1869, at Klingerman's School was Thos. J. Weber; at Walborn's School, Henrietta Marlin; at Messerschmidt, A. B. Miller (1869-1870); and at the Tunnel, Daniel Salmon (1869-1870). Three of these school houses are still standing—Walborn's, on the Albert Evans Farm; Messerschmidt's, which was moved to the Wm. Klingerman Farm and is now used as a polling place; and the Tunnel School, which was remodeled and is in use on the Peter Lastosky Farm.

Klingerman's which was converted into a church was razed as stated before in 1933.

In 1889, three more modern and up to date buildings were erected to replace the older structures. Klingerman's No. 1 in Locust Valley on the road from Tuscarora to Mahanoy City; Walborn's in Locust Valley on the road from Brockton to Mahanoy City; Messerschmidt's on the road from the Wm. Messerschmidt Farm to the Kunkel Farm, now owned by Harry Zukowski. The Tunnel School on Route No. 45 at East Mahanoy Tunnel was built in 1890. These are still in use. In 1926 a new and modern building was built on a lot donated by Henry Kraus, at East Mahanoy Junction, and in 1931 a modern two-room school was erected on a site purchased from Mrs. Henry Blume. The condition of the buildings is good; and the two-room building at Park Crest and the one-room building at East Mahanoy Junction are up to date structures, a credit to the district and the villages in which they are located.

The population of the township, 1930 census, is 1082. Assessed valuation, 1932-33, \$432,673; true valuation of real estate, \$721,121; number of teachers, 6; enrollment of pupils, 209; average per cent. of attendance (Nov. 1933)—92.90.

Number from township in high school, 32; average salary of teachers, \$100; length of term, 8 months; number of taxables, 584; state appropriation, Edmund's Act, \$2,000, rate of taxation for schools, 17 mills; bonded debt, 1933, \$7,000.

The present board of directors is as follows: John Purnell, Pres.; Raymond Coomb, Vice Pres.; John Bachert, Secy.; Chas. Mathews, Treas.; George King.

Teachers: 1933-34—Klingerman's, Shirley Kraus; Walborn's, Robert Shaeffer; Messerschmidt's, Irma

Evans; East Mahanoy Tunnel, Rosina Rebb; East Mahanoy Jct., Jas. E. Mathews; Park Crest, Kathryn Stank.

HOTELS

David Dresh kept the pioneer tavern of the township in a log house on the Jacob Klingerman Farm. The first regular hotel was built about 1820, on the opposite side of the road from the Valley House, by Timothy Lewis. The Valley House was built by a man named Kearn about 1842. Wm. Weaver bought it in 1868 and had it remodeled and rebuilt the same year, D. D. Messerschmidt and his father having charge of the work. Mr. Weaver had a fish pond containing fine specimens of trout adjoining his house.

This hotel was afterward owned consecutively by a Mr. Wetzel, Wm. O. Shellhammer and Anthony Donsavage, the present proprietor. These early hotels were erected along the early roads where "accommodation for man and beast" was cheerfully and cheaply proffered, even though of a primitive character. The teamsters generally carried their own rations as well as supplies of feed for their teams. The main business of the inn-keeper was to serve liquor and entertain the guests. They also carried their own mattress which was spread out on the floor of the inn and at times there were so many it was difficult to walk.

At the present time there are seven hotels in the township, namely, Valley Hotel, Anthony Donsavage, proprietor; Miller's Hotel, Fred Miller, proprietor; Elmer Reisig Hotel, Elmer Reisig, proprietor; Log Cabin Inn, Wm. Stank, proprietor; Hasensack Hotel, Peter Lastosky, proprietor; Echo Dale Hotel, Butch Keiser, proprietor; East Mahanoy Jct. Hotel, Peter Didvales, proprietor.

RAILROADS

East Mahanoy Jct., a small village situated at a point where the Catawissa Branch of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad connects with the main line of the Phila. and Reading between Williamsport and Philadelphia, owes its origin to the building of the Little Schuylkill Railroad built in 1854.

In 1831 the Little Schuylkill R. R. was completed from Port Clinton to Tamaqua, it was built of wooden rails strapped with flat iron. In 1833, a trial trip was made on this road with a locomotive engine running from Port Clinton to Tamaqua.

This was the first locomotive introduced in Schuylkill County and excited considerable interest. However, the structure of the railroad was too light for the engine, which spread the rails and ran into the river.

This road was extended in 1863 to the southern base of Mahanoy Mountain a spur of the Broad Mt., at a point about three miles from Mahanoy City and was known as the East Mahanoy Railroad.

Here it passes under the mountain through a tunnel 3400 feet long. The tunnel was commenced in 1859 or 60 and completed in 1863. The contractors employed were P. J. Barry and brother and the enterprise was under the supervision of the Little Schuylkill Railroad, and after completion was leased by that company. When the work was completed a dispute arose between the contractors and the lessors, in regard to the actual measurement of the tunnel and the work done. Mr. Barry refused to give possession of the tunnel and in accordance therewith blockaded it, by planting a cannon at the outer entrance, thus preventing all engines from entering and effectually impeding every attempt to place it into practical use.

The difficulty was finally adjusted by compromise.

The first shipment of coal through the tunnel was made by E. S. Sillyman, passing a train of 14 loaded cars in Jan. 1863. It was afterward brought into practical use. The tunnel is equipped with a huge fan to keep it clear of smoke and gas fumes. At the present time it is not uncommon to see a train of a hundred or more loaded cars pass through this tunnel.

ROADS

What was known as the Catawissa Road was the first attempt at road building in the township. This extended from the vicinity of Port Clinton via of what is now McKeansburg, Tuscarora, Locust Valley thence via the Catawissa Valley to the Susquehanna. Another road, the Old Middleport Road, extended from the vicinity of Middleport, via Locust Valley, crossing the Murphy and the A. C. Faust farm to the Carl Winkle farm, thence across the Broad Mountain via what was known as the Mountain House to the vicinity of Shamokin. When the Chas. Seddon family moved from Port Carbon to Mahanoy City in 1874 they traveled over this road by stage.

Today most of the main roads of the township are of improved construction, Route No. 45 connecting with Route No. 29 at Hometown passes through the township from East Mahanoy Junction, via the Tunnel to Mahanoy City and is of cement construction. It was built in 1921.

What is known as Moss Glen Road from Brockton via Locust Valley to Mahanoy City is of macadam construction and was built in 1932.

The Tuscarora-Lakeside road under construction at the present time (1934), will be of macadam. This will be a connecting link between

Route No. 45 and Route No. 209. The road leading from Lakeside through Locust Valley connecting with the Moss Glen Road at Walborn's School is of macadam and was built in 1933.

A road of macadam type connecting the Lakeside-Locust Valley Road at the Cooper farm with Route No. 45 at East Mahanoy Tunnel School house is under construction at the present time (1934).

The road from the Wm. Messerschmidt farm to the Kunkel farm now owned by Harry Zukowski is of macadam and was built in 1930. This road is a connecting link between the Tuscarora-Lakeside Road and the Lakeside-Locust Valley Road. The present supervisors are Edw. Blew, Jos. Reisig, and George Scharr.

PARKS

Ryan Township boasts of two fine privately owned parks—Lakeside Park and Lakewood Park—both at East Mahanoy Junction. Lakeside Park is the older of the two and has been in existence since 1880, when two dams and a picnic ground constituted the present park. Gustave Roth was the first owner. In 1901 Harry Hart, Sr. and Wm. Lewis purchased the park, containing 188 acres, from Mr. Roth. In 1912 Mr. Hart bought out Mr. Lewis and thus became the sole owner. This same ownership has been maintained for the past 25 years. At the death of Harry Hart, Sr., in 1928, title to the park passed to the following heirs Julia, Dorothy, Maria, Wm. and Harry, Jr.; Harry Hart sold his interest to his brother and sisters in 1929. Several hundred men are employed each winter, when the natural ice is harvested and stored in two huge ice houses, each containing 3500 tons of ice. During the summer this ice is shipped by railway to Phila., where it is used to refrigerate tropical fruits and meat.

During the last ten years a giant roller coaster, an old mill, and a modern dance pavilion have been erected.

For a period of about 35 years, Schuylkill County's playground was to be found in Lakeside Park.

Lakewood Park is located at the headwaters of the Schuylkill River, Schuylkill County. In 1915 a farm of 76 acres was purchased from Daniel Flynn and was opened as Lakewood Park in 1916. A few years later another farm of 24 acres was purchased from Lewis Bankes.

In 1925 a large concrete swimming pool, one of the largest in America, was constructed. A large dance pavilion is famed for high-class orchestras. This park is owned by Guinan Bros. of Mahanoy City.

ORGANIZATIONS

Lakeside Grange No. 1418 was organized in June 1909 in Messerschmidt's Schoolhouse, with about 40 members.

The first officers of the organization were: Master, J. W. Kundel; Overseer, A. C. Faust; Secy., Geo. Kemery; Treas., D. D. Messerschmidt; Lecturer, F. M. Ebert.

In 1916 a site for a hall was purchased from Mrs. A. B. Miller at Lakeside and in 1917 a modern and up to date hall was built on the site by the Park Crest Builders' Co.

The present membership is 91. The officers at the present time are: Master, John J. Konsavage; Overseer, Roy A. Messerschmidt; Lecturer, Mrs. Jos. Marshall; Steward, Claude Garber; Asst. Steward, Karl E. Reisig; Chaplain, Harry E. Blew; Treasurer, Chas. D. Blew; Secretary, Reynold J. Reisig; Gate Keeper, Alvin Fritz; Ceres, Sara Blackwell; Pomona, Mrs. Alice Gastager; Flora, Mrs. O. C. Godshall; Lady Asst. Steward, Viola Fritz.

Lakewood Post American Legion was organized Sept. 20, 1933 in Park

Crest Garage as temporary headquarters. The charter was applied for, and the officers were elected as follows: Post Commander, Ivor Griffiths; Post Adjutant, Roy Mengle; Post Finance Officer, Clayton Bair; Trustees, Wilbur Hawk, Harry Hart, Ivor Griffiths.

They further agreed to rent a place of their own, agreeing on Lindemuth's property, where the post now stands. At present they have 17 members, as Legionnaires, and from 15 to 20 club members, they are progressing slowly but surely. The Post feels honored to have as a member Wilbur Hawk, District Adjutant of the 13th District of Pennsylvania.

Park Crest

Park Crest owes its origin to the building of the state highway Route No. 45 and Lakewood Park. Prior to the building of this road, what is now Park Crest was all farmland.

Today it contains about 100 dwellings, a church, a two-room school, four stores, a milk pastuerizing plant, a peanut and coffee roastery, two hotels, and two large garages.

Veterans

Veterans of the Civil War from Ryan Township are as follows: John Augustine, Ammon Maurer, David Garber, Nathaniel Yost, Wm. Seddon, Levi Derr, Wm. Mellon, David White, Lewis Faust.

World War Veterans: Harry Herbig, Daniel Krauch, Benj. Perry, Roy Mengle, Harry Hart, Jr., Clayton Bair, Jas. E. Mathews, George Weiss, Jas. McCarthy, Geo. Deitrich, Chas. Ellis, Leon Klingerman, Fred D. Faust, Wm. Skeath, Walter Lewis, Wm. Rang, John Timko, Michael Tomko, Edw. Rommel, Jos. Blackwell, Ivor Griffiths, Harry Stride, Clarence Blew, wounded in action; Robt. Heckman, wounded in action; John Gastager, died in Camp Lee.

McAdoo Borough Once Part of Kline Twp.

(From "Pottsville Republican"—"Morning Paper," November 20-28, 1934)

(By McAdoo High School Pupils, Washburn Snoich, Principal)

The charter of incorporation was granted McAdoo borough July 8, 1896. Prior to that date it was a part of Kline Township, and its early history is therefore a part of the history of that township. Its first settlers were the Irish and Welsh who came into this region in the early 50's. The family of Michael Matthew Kelly was the first to come to McAdoo, coming in 1884, when there were only two houses. The Wm. Gower family was second and later, the Wm. McGee family.

McAdoo was then known as Sailor's Hill, and later Pleasant Hill. John O'Donnell, Mr. Hinkle, M. Wilkofski, John Curran and Chas. Dever came soon afterwards. The present name was given the town in honor of Wm. G. McAdoo, second Assistant Postmaster General of the time, and later Secretary of State in Wilson's Administration.

The first municipal officers were: Chief Burgess, Jas. J. McDonald; Chief of Police, Wm. Fox; Constable, J. Currin, President of Council, Thos. Kelly; Secretary of Council, James F. Carlin; Councilmen, John Burnard, Michael McGee and Henry Mace. Their first meeting was held on Aug. 18th, 1896. The council adopted rules and ordinances for the government and regulation of the affairs of the new municipality on August 25, 1896. Among the twenty-seven ordinances passed by the first council were

rules relating to laying a tax on dogs, prohibiting nuisances on public and private grounds, prohibiting use of fire arms, prohibiting indecent exposure, snowballing, loafing on streets, and using obscene language. One ordinance related to fast driving (not over six miles per hour); and another governed the speed of riding bicycles through the borough.

The following are the men who have held the office of Chief Burgess of McAdoo during the thirty-eight years of its existence; Jas. Carlin; Jas. J. McDonald, two terms; Edward McGeehan, two terms; Wm. Fox, three terms; Michael Dougherty, two terms; and the present burgess, serving his first term, John Sekerik.

Old Roads and Trails

The old roads and trails are vantage points in the study of local history. A few generations ago, the Hinkle brothers of Quakake Valley were the first to improve the beaten Tamaqua Indian Trail by hewing a crude road across the large swamp which separated the present McAdoo from Audenried. The year following, 1849, a stagecoach owner, a Mr. Horton opened a regular coach route from Wilkes Barre to Hazleton, then through McAdoo into Summit Station, now called Lofty, and thence into Tamaqua. This brought McAdoo into the regular communicating link between the Susquehanna and Schuylkill Rivers, and aided

in the settlement of the town itself.

Improvements were made from time to time to the road until in the fall of 1925 and the spring of 1926, the State of Pennsylvania in its development of state highways laid through the town a cement ribbon of the latest improvement.

Post Office

Shortly after the charter of incorporation was granted, on an application by several citizens of the town, the post office department established a post office in the borough limits. The exact date is unknown but it had started in the year 1896. Prior to that date all the mail for the residents of McAdoo was addressed to Audenried. The first postmaster of McAdoo was Alex. McMullen. The building was located on South Tamaqua St. in the building which is somewhat changed and now owned by P. V. Dougherty. The clerk was Miss Agnes Curry, whose folks lived at Silver Brook. Mr. McCullen held the office as postmaster approximately eight years. In 1902 it changed hands, the appointment being given to Jas. J. McShea. The building situate on Blaine and Tamaqua Sts. was moved to the O'Donnel Building. Miss Bridget Muldony served as clerk. The O'Donnel Building was a frame building and the post office was confined to a small room on the Blaine St. side. The building was later moved to the rear of the lot and several years later destroyed by fire. On Dec. 26, 1905, Andrew Skwier was appointed postmaster by Postmaster General G. B. Cortelyou. The post-office was moved to the Skwier Building on West Blaine St. Here it remained until Aug. 1915, and was under the management of Mrs. Anna Postupack, who was later appointed post-mistress in her own right and Anthony Skwier, who was later or-

dained a priest of the Greek Catholic Church. The next postmaster was Geo. P. F. Carr (July 25, 1915), who did not complete a full term, tendering his resignation about the third year. Mr. Carr moved the office to his own building on North Tamaqua St., the same building which is at present occupied by Berlitz Bakery. In the early part of the year 1919, after the resignation of Mr. Carr, Michael Pecuch was appointed acting post-master and served in that capacity. He moved the office to his building on W. Blaine St. During his acting administration the office was managed by Miss Mary Skwier, who now is Mrs. John Fedan, at Pittsburgh and Geo. Marinko. On Jan. 8, 1924, Attorney John Skwier J. D., was appointed postmaster by Pres. Calvin Coolidge. On March 1, 1924 the office was again moved to the Skwier Building on W. Blaine St. It was here the office began to expand to its present size.

In not more than a year the village-carrier free delivery service was established at McAdoo, Pa. (Sept. 1925). Post-master Skwier was authorized to make the necessary provision for the free mail delivery service. On Dec. 1, 1925 he appointed Geo. Postupack, Wm. Krohn, as first regular mail carriers and Walter Yankovicz and Geo. Gerlach as substitute. In Nov. 1927, Geo. Postupack resigned. Mary Felock served as clerk. (She is now Mrs. August Lasherka).

On Jan. 11, 1929 Mrs. Anna Postupack, sister of Attorney Skwier, was appointed to succeed him as post-mistress of McAdoo. Mrs. Postupack held the office until Aug. 1, 1933 about six months after the expiration of her commission. It was during her administration that the office was moved to its present location on S. Tamaqua St., in the building now owned by Attorney John Skwier, J. D. and the other by

his sister Mrs. Anna Postupack. The present acting postmaster, Stephen F. Payer, took charge of the office Aug. 1, 1933 with the organization as it was left by Mrs. Anna Postupack except as to clerks who were Emil Postupack and Theodora Postupack appointed by the late postmistress to fill the vacancy caused by resignation of Mrs. Lesh-erka in the latter part of 1932 and J. Petresky taking the place of Geo. Gerlach.

INDUSTRIES

Oct. 16, 1899 a special meeting was called to discuss the building of an electric plant in McAdoo. Bids were submitted for the construction of the boiler room. At another meeting, E. D. Seeley was appointed electrician.

On Feb. 1, 1908 McAdoo Borough leased the plant to J. S. Wise and Nicholas Kulch, under the name of McAdoo Electric Co. The Company could not meet the interest on their bonds, which they had loaned, and so had to sell. On July 1909 the McAdoo Electric Co. sold out to the Harwood Electric Co. M. McDe-witt was made foreman, or head of the station. On March 20, 1920 the Harwood Co. moved their office from Washington St. to North Tamaqua St., where the present office is.

On May 1, 1922, the Pennsylvania Power and Light Co. submitted its first bid for street lighting. They received the contract, and Harry A. Mohr was made manager. When the P. P. and L. gained control, they purchased, for the sum of \$8,000, all the material the past companies had and destroyed it, putting in all new apparatus. They receive their power from Harwood and serve 2900 customers, which includes McAdoo and the surrounding districts. They employ seven people, including the manager, and have a sub-station on Washington St.

Factories

The first factory was originated in 1896 by Leight. This factory manufactured shirts, and employed about sixty people when they first opened. It is now closed. The second factory originated by Gerhart is now closed. The third factory, Miller's, is now closed.

The first silk factory, built by Wm. McGowan, employed about 200 men and women. The factory has today about the same amount of employees, but is in charge of Lieberman.

Pollock's Shirt Factory had 43 employes when first opened and they still have 43.

The paper box factory has 33 employees.

Candlemas Colliery

The coal of this division was discovered near Shamokin, Pa., and was traced, by means of proof holes, through the Panther Valley to Silverbrook by an old Irishman by the name of McGary.

The first form of mining performed at Silverbrook was a small shaft under the Lindemuth and Sheer people.

The second company that undertook the operation was under the name of Wentz and Company. It was operated about fifty years ago, about the year of 1884. The superintendent was Joseph Long. Their first mine was located at a place now called New Silverbrook. The name of this first mine was the Gunboat Slope.

Under the Wentz people, the first stripping was excavated. The work was under the supervision of a man named Becker. The work was started between the years of 1892 and 1893. After the work was completed, Becker remained around the place for a while, but later disappeared. Three weeks after his body was found floating in the stripping that was excavated under his supervision.

The first breaker was built at New Silverbrook. It was operated by Wentz and Co. This breaker was torn down before the big strike.

The company employed approximately 250 men, who were able to fill from 250 to 300 cars daily. It covered a territory of about three square miles.

The next company to take the franchise was the Champion Company. This company had a small washery which was kept running by the slate banks of the vicinity. The second breaker was about 200 feet from the present breaker. Then came the present breaker. It was bought from the Champion Co. by the Haddock Mining Co. in 1923. This lease took in part of the Lehigh Valley, P. & R. C. & I. territories and the Coxe estate. This took in the territory from the Lofty tunnel to the tower lines of the P. P. & L. in Rush Valley.

When the franchise was bought by Haddock there was no machinery, with the exception of the washery; all work was done by human energy and by the use of mules. After getting settled he began dewatering the Slopes Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, and 11, along with the Gordon. As soon as the old breaker was dismantled, construction of the third and present breaker was begun. This new modern breaker is electrically operated and includes all the latest of machinery, such as classifiers, which separate the slate from the coal, the rotary dump car, one of the most recent improvements, and the drag line, which is used instead of the plane to take the coal into the breaker. The first coal was run through the breaker on the 14th of April, 1924.

There are four veins in this valley. The first vein is called the Mammoth Vein, which is from 20 to 50 feet thick. The next vein directly under the Mammoth is the Worton, which lies from 10 to 20

feet. Next in line is the Top Buck, approximately from 18 inches to 4 feet in thickness. The last vein is called the Bottom Buck, from 8 to 12 feet thick. The veins run in a north and south direction, and as they go down, they become thicker and wider. Driven into the veins are gangways, through which the cars reach the miner. The breasts run east and west. The veins run on a 20 to 60 degree pitch. The chambers are made fifty feet apart to protect life and property from the caving roof. These fifty foot walls are called pillars.

Second mining begins when all the chambers are driven to their extremes and then the robbing of the fifty foot pillars begin. As they are robbing the mines are caved behind them. The pillars are always removed in sections.

The present officers of the company are: Superintendent, Fred C. Alderson; President, John C. Haddock; Asst. Supt., Wm. A. Jones; Outside Foreman, John Turk; Inside Foreman, Jas. E. McFadden; Richard Kelshaw, Charles Morgans, Balsen Leonard, John Medvetz, Chas. Stickler, John Saxon, Foster Guyer.

Haddock Mining Co. employs between 700 and 800 men. It covers about the territory as formerly and has a production of about 900 cars daily.

The stripping coal is excavated by six steam shovels, all the coal being hauled to the breaker by 12 locomotives. Mining machinery is electrically operated, the power being supplied by their own power house. Motors are being used instead of mules. A first aid corps was organized and is being well drilled by state men. Located inside the mine is a hospital and first aid room.

With the prospect of about 20 more years of mining Silverbrook is and will be one of the chief em-

ploying centers of the region. It now employs men within a radius of ten miles—it has caused the building of McAdoo Heights, Had-docktown, East McAdoo, and Silverbrook.

The Candlemas Colliery is located on Route 29 between McAdoo and Tamaqua. It is available by automobile. The information about the colliery was received through the courtesy of James McFadden.

EDUCATION

Education in McAdoo was first carried on in two small buildings that were located on the present site of the Grant St. School. One of these buildings was a one-room building and the other contained three rooms. Several years after the borough was incorporated, the Hancock St. School was built. At first this was a four-room building but later a six-room addition was built.

In 1909 the three room building on Grant St. was destroyed by fire and the present building was erected in 1910.

The first principal, who later resigned to practice law, was Edw. J. Brennan. He was succeeded by A. T. O'Donnell who served as supervising principal until 1922, when Miss Sallie L. Ferry was appointed.

A two-year high school was opened in 1913 under the direction of A. T. O'Donnell and Miss Anna McNelis. After five years it was discontinued and the pupils were sent to Hazleton for high school work.

A Continuation School was organized in 1927. The teacher was Miss Mary Mundy. The first class was held in the Grant School. In the fall of 1929 it was transferred to the high school. Then in 1930 it was established in the borough building where it is conducted by Miss Mundy.

In 1928 the present high school began under the principalship of A. Clair Moser. The other high school teachers were Miss Margaret Sullivan and Miss Anna McNelis. The enrollment was sixty-five including ninth and tenth grade pupils.

The following year Mr. Moser became principal of the Coaldale High School and was succeeded by the present principal Washburn Snoich. Two more teachers, Thos. Boyle, Jos. Regelsky were added to the corps. Later Edward Bunsa, Miss Catherine O'Donnell, Thos. Charles, John McBride, and Francis Sheeto were elected.

Frank Gallagher was made Supervisor of Music to succeed Mr. Horn who also went to Coaldale.

The high school enrollment now consists of 249 pupils. The enrollment in the grades is 839. There are at present 1088 pupils enrolled in the borough schools. There are twenty-seven teachers altogether.

During the present year the high school has been much improved by the addition of an up-to-date gymnasium and several new rooms are being added as a Civil Works Administration project.

The first school directors were: Jas. H. Curry, Condy Coll, Edw. McGeehan, Daniel McMullen, and John Williams.

St. Patrick's School was erected in 1925. At the opening of the first term approximately 300 pupils were in attendance, with a faculty consisting of six Sisters of the Immaculate Heart Order from Phila.

In 1927 a two-year commercial high school was added and was attended by many pupils from the public schools of the Borough of McAdoo.

St. Patrick's grade school and commercial high school have been noted for the great work they have done in so short a time.

The auditorium is also in this building and is one of the largest and finest recreational centers in the anthracite region.

St. Patrick's School and Convent combined was built at an expense of \$120,000. At the present time the enrollment is approximately 265 students and 9 enrolled in the commercial high school.

Keystone Fire Co.

The Keystone Fire Co. was organized in June 1896. It started with about thirty members. The first officers were: Pres., Fred Eberly; Sec., Wm. Bradney; Treas. and Chief, Charles Carlin. They obtained their charter the following year, 1897.

They first used hand-carts and later they obtained a hook and ladder. In 1900 Wm. Foxx was elected Pres.; Jas. Carlin, Secy., and P. V. Daugherty, Treas. In 1904 Daniel Brennan was elected Pres.; David Jones, Secy.; and James MacDonald, Treas.

In 1922 they got their first motor driven engine and in 1930 they had it overhauled and installed with new equipment.

First National Bank

The First National Bank of McAdoo was organized in 1907. It started business in the residence of John O'Donnell. In 1912 it was moved to its present location. In 1927, the new building was erected on the old site.

The original officers were: Pres., John J. Burnard; Vice Pres., Edward J. Dailey; Cashier, Howard I. Smith.

The present officers are: Pres., John H. Burnard; Vice Pres., John C. Haddock; Cashier, Jas. S. Brogan; Ass't. Cashier, A. B. Midash.

On the Board of Directors, those of the original board are: J. H. Burnard, Jas. J. McDonald, Con. J. O'Donnell, L. G. Wetterau, M. D.

The Miners' Bank

The Miners' Bank of McAdoo was organized in 1927. It started business in the Bruno building on the corner of Blaine and Tamaqua Sts. After five years of service the bank failed.

Its officers were: Pres., Daniel Bavalack, Sr.; Vice Pres., Joseph Bruno; Cashier, W. Simmons; Asst. Cashier, Stephen Payer.

The Board of Directors were: Peter Mackin, Sr., Phil. Bruno, Frank Guozenda, Peter Sadaroni, P. T. Voccola, J. Bruley.

The Theatres

McAdoo had its first theatre in 1908. This could not well be called a theatre as it consisted of only one room. It was located at South Tamaqua St. where Hassler's have their business place at the present time. Movies were not shown here very long because a fire occurred not far from there and much damage was done to the machinery. The next theatre was on North Tamaqua St. where the First National Bank is now. The owner of this theatre was Mr. Burnard and it was called "The Star." The next theatre was "The Lion." This was located where the "Palace" is now. It was not long after this that another theatre was built. This was the "Blaine" located on Blaine St. across from St. Mary's Catholic Greek Church. Both of these theatres were destroyed by fire within a month of each other. After they burned down a temporary theatre was set up in a little house back of the St. Patrick's School. This was used until the "Lion" was rebuilt. When it was rebuilt it was also renamed. It was now called the "Palace" and this name remained to the present time. About three years ago, the "Roxy" theatre and the "Strand" theatre were established. The "Roxy" was in business about two years and a half and then went

out of business. At the present time there remain only two theatres, the "Palace" and the "Strand."

The American Legion

The American Legion was first organized August 1919. In 1924 they bought their new home on Tamaqua St. in McAdoo. The chartered members when they first started were as follows: Peter Artum, Chas. Brennan, Daniel Bavolak, Martin Cauley, J. J. Daily, M. J. Dougherty, Arthur Freidman, Jas. Fogarty, Jos. Freid, Jos. Fudge, Alex. Galatha, H. W. Lazurus, Jos. Galatha, Ruby Gimbe, Lewis Herzeg, Edw. Hinkle, Peter Zeta, Mark Kelley, Stephen Kudish, Dr. W. J. Kennedy, John Kozel, Calvin Krohn, Peter Mackin, John Mahoney.

In 1932, the American Legion formed a Drum and Bugle Corps, which was a great success. They went to many different counties and made good, they were offered many prizes for their neat appearance and the work they have done.

The uniforms were bought and paid for by the "Ladies Auxiliary" of McAdoo. They raised the money in order that they would buy the uniforms for their boys and make them look as neat as they could.

The organization has grown very rapidly and many new members were admitted. They were as follows: Jos. Midash, Anthony Mayshock, Michael Mack, Hugh McGready, John McBride, Frank McShea, John McFadden, John Noga, Jos. Olear, Stephen Payer, Wm. V. Patton, Andrew Rundish, John Rickry, Michael Schwartz, John Shokorski, Peter Sheeron, John Skwier, Jos. J. Sharkey, Jos. Urban, Lewis Turk, Adolph Torselli, Michael Wanno, Wassil Wida, Stanley Wasno.

The officers chosen when first starting out were as follows: Chas. Brennan, Commander; Jos.

Midash, Vice Pres.; and Andrew Rundish, Treas.

The officers of the organization at the present time are as follows: Jos. Midash, Commander; Millard Fritz, Adjutant; Wm. Patton, Service Officer; John Sikorsky, Finance Officer; John Markovic, Sgt. at Arms.

The following is the Executive Committee: Frank Demers, Past Commander; Jos. Turk, Sr., Vice Commander; John Tomlin, and Millard Fritz.

THE CHURCHES

Saint Patrick's Church was built in 1900. The congregation consists of parishioners from Beaver Brook, Audenried, Tresckow, Kline Township and McAdoo.

It was erected during the pastorate of Father Malloy, who died in 1903. Father Malloy was succeeded by Father Sweeney who was transferred to Coaldale in 1907.

In 1907 the pastorate was given to the present Pastor Father McAnnon.

During this time the church has made many vast improvements such as building a school and convent at the price of \$120,000. Also at the expense of the parish, the street in front of the church property was paved.

Polish National Catholic Church

The brief history of the Sts. Peter and Paul Polish National Catholic Church of McAdoo is as follows:

The movement for organizing the Polish parish of The Polish National Church of America and Poland arose in the city of McAdoo, spontaneously.

The first meeting was held in McAdoo. Sixty St. Cunegunda's members participated. The affair was held in Mr. Miczkunas' Hall.

The active individuals in this meeting were Francis Geffert, Ladislav Orzech and Anthony Undorf.

The clergy organizers in the mentioned meeting were Rev. Father Rene Zawistowski and Stanislaw Zawadzki. The first service was celebrated in the house of Mrs. Fritz in March 1920, by the following priests: Rev. Father Zawistowski, Stanislaw Zawadzki and John Zieba. The first parishional committee chairman was Ladislav Orzech. His successors up to the present one Stanislaw Karmowski, were as follows: Stanislaw Moczarski, Alexander Cudnik, Mr. Orzech. The present Polish National Catholic Church, located at E. Adams St., was erected during a pastorate of Rev. Father J. Olszewski in the year of 1920.

All the priests up to the present time are as follows: Rev. J. Olszewski, Rev. R. Zawisowski, Rev. J. Brzozowski, Rev. J. Klos, Rev. J. Ziemba, Rev. J. Misiaszek, Rev. A. Abramski, Rev. E. Starorypinski, Rev. J. Olechnowicz and the present pastor, Rev. Stanislaw Molon.

The present parish consists of 65 families. The congregation is in possession of church building rectory, and cemetery. The estate value is \$35,000.

St. Stephen's Magyar

The St. Stephen's Magyar Congregation is one of the oldest in McAdoo, situated at Grant and Lincoln Sts. It is 44 years old, being first organized in 1890. Since then it was destroyed by fire three times. The last fire was in 1913. When the congregation was first organized there were about three hundred families in McAdoo and vicinity. Since then the majority of the families moved out of town into larger cities and thus decreasing the number of families down to about forty. Many movements have been taken since the congregation stands, such as, lodges, fraternities, and associ-

ations. There is the Verhovay Aid Association, one of the oldest Hungarian Benefit Lodges organized in McAdoo. St. Ladislau Lodge, which is now of national fame having branches in most of the cities, was also originated here. When the parish was first organized the Rev. Joseph Szczeniczey was pastor. After he left the congregation was taken over by the Rev. Joseph Csizmadia, and so on until down to the present time, the pastor is Rev. Ferdinand Szabo. The Hungarians as a nation, date back one thousand years and the late congregation here was named after the first King and Patron Saint, St. Stephen, who was the first to bring the Catholic Religion to the Nomad Hungarians.

St. Casimere's

Thirty years ago Jacob Lawson, Frank Baronosky, Mr. Anilosky, Mr. Shunsky, calling themselves St. Casimere's Society decided to build a church of their own, an independent church over which the Catholic See would have no authority. The Society bought from the Wilkes Barre Coal Co. a lot, situated on the corner of Adams and Cleveland Sts.

Work on the building did not begin immediately, due to differences among the members.

Meantime the Society had fallen on evil days. A few of the leaders died. The treasury was depleted to the tune of \$600 for a sidewalk. No money was coming in and St. Casimere's Society went bankrupt. The deeds and bank books went into the hands of a new person. Three trustees were appointed and the deeds filed in their name. Dissension broke out. It was finally decided that the church should be a member of the diocese. A building committee was selected, consisting of John Juck, A. Dugel and Mr. Shunsky.

The ground was broken early in the spring of 1928 and the church was completed in May of that same year. It is a small wooden building costing close to \$10,000 and is called the Church of St. Casimere.

The parish is small, consisting of 32 families, and cannot support a rectory. Therefore a priest from Coaldale officiates at mass on alternate Sundays.

The Russian Orthodox

The Russian Orthodox Church came into existence in 1908 when six families of the St. Mary's Ukrainian Church disagreed with their religious doctrines and decided to set up a church of their own. They bought an old Protestant Church in Kelayres and moved it to McAdoo. Later as the parish increased, this church was sold and in 1916 the present church was built. The parish now totals approximately forty families.

St. Cunegunda's Parish

St. Cunegunda's R. C. parish, whose church and school are situated at Washington and Cleveland Sts., started as a mission church in November 1893 when the Rev. Matthias Tarnowski, also organizer of St. Casimir's parish in Mahanoy City came to say Mass for a small group of Poles, then living mostly in Honeybrook, Slabtown, and Yorktown. The first Masses were said in the old Grant St. schoolhouse; subsequently the Poles organized a society called the Casimir Pulaski Guards. They bought a plot of ground on Washington St. from the Lehigh & Wilkes Barre Coal Co. and erected a small chapel, which served until 1905, when it was moved to its present location across from the post office.

Father Tarnowski was followed by the Rev. Marc Januszkiewicz, who was pastor for seven years, his record broken only by the present rector, the Rev. P. J. Klekotka. Fathers S. M. Olesinski and Joseph

Biela did not stay here so long. The parishioners now felt themselves strong enough to support a resident pastor in the person of the Rev. John Dabrowski who came here in January 1904 and immediately started to build the beautiful church edifice now standing. Upon his departure in March 1906 the Revs. Louis Wojtys, Paul Guzik and Stanislaus Frog administered here. The Rev. Jos. Kuczynski was appointed in January 1909 and in 1910 was followed for a short time by the Rev. Adalbert Sulek and then by the Rev. Francis Grzywocz who was here till 1903. The parish now began to prosper. His successor, the Rev. Michael Pachucki, who came here in 1913 decorated the church interior and improved the cemetery and above all introduced a full time school in the church basement under the auspices of the Bernardine Sisters in 1917.

Rev. Michael Pachucki was followed by the beloved Rev. Leo Paterecki whom the influenza epidemic carried away to an untimely death in 1918. The enterprising Rev. Jos. Woda was not able to stay here long when he was followed in June 1919 by the Rev. Sebastian Jerzak. In his six years stay here he left an enviable record of having further embellished the church with a new organ and other improvements, having cleared the cemetery, paid off the debt, and amassed a substantial sum towards the building of a new school when the old quarters were closed down in 1923 as not quite suitable for teaching purposes.

Circumstances brought about a change in October 1925 when the present rector arrived on the scene. With a new spirit the parish nobly assisted the pastor in the erection of an eight-room parochial school with an auditorium, handsomely built of brick at a cost of upwards of \$65,000 which was dedicated by

the Rt. Rev. Bishop Michael Crane, V. G. in September 1928. Since its reopening, the Sisters of Nazareth are in charge, of whom there are now eight with an enrollment averaging 250 upwards. The parish lost a portion of its membership in 1923 but at present retains over 300 families in loyal support of their pastor, the Rev. Peter J. Klekotka. Since 1930 the increasing needs of the parish have necessitated the appointment of an assistant rector and there labored here the Revs. Stephen Wyborski, John S. Pytko, John Gaj, Jos. Tylka, and at present the Rev. Jos. Niemiec.

Ukranian Greek Catholic

The first Greek Catholic Church was formed of the present St. Michael's, and St. Mary's Greek Catholic Churches. It was built in 1891 and dedicated in October 1891. It had fifty families belonging to the parish. This church was rebuilt in 1907 and while the building was being constructed mass was served in one of the parishioners homes. The present church was dedicated in 1908 by Bishop Ortynski. This church which is the present church consisted of three hundred families. Then in 1909 a split of the parish followed and now, as said before, it consists of St. Michael's and St. Mary's Greek Catholic Churches. The present St. Mary's Catholic Church, however, consists of 115 families.

The first priest of these combined churches was Vladmir Andrucho-vich.

St. Mary's Slovak

The St. Mary's parish of McAdoo was founded in 1893, forty-one years ago, by a group of ardent Slovaks from McAdoo, Treskow, Beaver Brook, Silver Brook, Bunker Hill and Lofty. In 1891 two years before the church was originally founded, the church services were conducted in the West Grant St. public school. The first priest to

officiate was the Rev. Francis Vlossak. The church was the wooden church built on ground bought from the Lehigh and Wilkes Barre Coal Co. and was located on East Grant St. At the time of the founding of the church there were approximately forty parishioners of which the following men took active parts: Mr. Kudich, Mr. Gombar, Mr. Garlic, Mr. Stacek, Andrew and John Greger, Andrew Skurka and Andrew Lazur from Beaver Brook; George Pohlod, Mr. Raynock and Mr. Gregor from Audenried; Joseph Kaduch and Mr. Aglar from Bunker Hill; Jacob Helt, Joe Kaslea, Mr. Danko and Mr. Metro from Silver Brook; and Steve Payer, Mr. Sabuda, Mr. Tekety, Mr. Kupetz, Steve Puncak, Mr. Kiral and Joe Kasper from McAdoo.

In the years from 1893 to 1933 the following priests officiated: Rev. Francis Vlossak, Rev. Novatsky, Rev. Gasparek, Rev. Martin Meres, Rev. Leopold Shifferdecker, Rev. Martin Dundalek, Rev. Starnek, Rev. Kabelka, Rev. Paul Hermann, Rev. Anton Panuch, Rev. Summers, Rev. Francis Benkosky, Father John Zboyski, Rev. Joseph Boronec, Rev. Oscar Shuster, Rev. Joseph Novorolsky, and finally Rev. Michael Holly, who is now the present priest. During Rev. Francis Vlossak's time, the wooden frame church was built; then during Rev. Leopold Shifferdecker's stay, a rectory was built in 1902. In 1912 the rectory and church was destroyed by fire. In 1913 during Rev. Joseph Novorolsky's stay a school, a convent and a new brick Church was erected. The priest also had a fence put around the cemetery, a pavement around the church property, and the rectory was painted.

During Rev. Summer's time Missionary Sisters were brought in. They were called the "Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart." The parochial school consisted of six

rooms, five school rooms, and a music room. It was a two-story structure. Five of the Missionary Sisters taught school and one was a domestic. The school lasted for eleven years and was destroyed by fire. The services of the Sisters were then discontinued. During Rev. Joseph Borovec's time of fourteen years, the church, school, Convent, and rectory burned down (1922). Church services were held in St. Patrick's Church on North Cleveland St. They started to rebuild the new and present church in 1923. The cornerstone was laid in 1923 and was dedicated in 1924. At the present time the pastor is Rev. Michael Holly and the church constitutes 266 families and over 700 parishioners. The Slovak Parish was the first in McAdoo and was the first to have a parochial school, which was in existence for eleven years. The church is now 41 years old and has many clubs and lodges, the more important being "The Woodmen of the World," "The Led-notu" and the "Holy Name."

St. Michael's Greek Catholic

St. Michael's Greek Catholic Church was organized in 1909 by the Carpathian Russian residents of McAdoo and vicinity. They built their first church on the north corner of Blaine and Cleveland Sts. The first rector for the parish was Rev. A. Kaminsky. The professor was Frank Sproh.

The first trustees were: Pres., Michael Pecuch; Secy., George Brewery; Treas., John Matsko, Sr.

During the years following, a new rector was appointed, being Rev. Stephen Janitzky, along with a new professor, Michael Firczak. Under their leadership the parish prospered greatly until the death of Rev. Janitzky in the year 1928; after this a new rector named Rev. Nicholas Kristoff was appointed. In a short while after his arrival, a new church was built on the north-

west corner of Blaine and Cleveland Sts. and an auditorium was made of the old church on the first floor and a club room was made in the basement.

About the same time a large tract of land was purchased in Kline Twp. The land is located in East McAdoo, north of Grant St. and adjoining the railroad. On this land a huge stadium was erected along with a large pavilion. Both of these along with the auditorium have been an asset to the community as well as the congregation.

In 1933 the professor left, and a new one, John Flintosh, was appointed. His great work has been shown by the popularity of the choir.

The present trustees are: Pres., Michael Pecuch; Secy., Peter Kakalecz; Treas., Nicholas Stefanisko.

When the parish was first organized there were approximately 50 families belonging to it. Since then, the number has increased to approximately 300.

Christ Reformed

Work at the building of the church began Aug. 15, 1896. The church was dedicated March 14, 1897, the first consistory meeting Jan. 13, 1897.

Rev. J. W. Buck was the first pastor from Sept. 6, 1896 to June 17, 1899. The ministers who followed were: Rev. Geo. B. Kerchner, Rev. J. A. Reber, from Dec. 14, 1899 to March 21, 1902; Rev. Henry Hilbish, June 1, 1903 to Aug. 1, 1904; Rev. A. J. Yenser, from Dec. 1, 1904 to the next year; Rev. G. E. Kopenhagen, from Sept. 4, 1905 to Nov. 17, 1906.

The church was closed until Nov. 12, 1908, when Rev. C. H. Herbst and J. W. Reinecke supplied the congregation. The church was rented during 1909 to another congregation at two dollars per month.

Rev. C. E. Correll was appointed stated supply by the E. Susquehanna

Classis, Feb. 15, 1916. The membership was then sixteen.

By Oct. 1, 1920 the membership was fifty, and Christ Reformed Church, McAdoo, was enrolled as a Home Mission and Rev. C. E. Correll, PhD., was commissioned the Missionary pastor.

Extensive repairs were made to the church in 1922 and the church was rededicated Oct. 22, 1922. Rev. J. M. Mullan, D. D., preached the dedicatory sermon and Rev. C. D. Leich preached in the evening.

The church has constantly increased in membership and now has two hundred and sixteen members enrolled. Dr. Correll is still the pastor.

The Ladies Auxiliary

The Ladies Auxiliary was organized on Jan. 7, 1932.

The object of this unit was to uphold the principles set forth in the Preamble to the American Legion Auxiliary Constitution, and to assist in furthering the activities of the National and Departmental Auxiliary and the Post.

The original officers were: Pres., Pearle McGready; 1st Vice Pres., Jule Organis; 2nd Vice Pres., Alfreda Midash; Secy., Sally Boyle, Treas., Jenny Payer; Chaplain, Mae Dougherty; Historian, Mrs. H. Wier.

The present officers are: Pres., Mrs. Demshick; 1st Vice Pres., Leona Lonzeski; Secy., Blanche Sikorski; Treas., J. Saduski; Chaplain, Fannie Fritz; Historian, Mrs. H. Wier.

Tremont Township's Wealth Lies in Coal

(From "Pottsville Republican"—"Morning Paper," November 24-27, 1934)

A Project worked out by the Pupils of the Tremont Township High School,
E. J. Webb, Supervising Principal; N. C. Smith, Principal.

It is our aim to unfold to our readers, the history of an interesting township; not for its history alone, but for its physical features, woodlands and forests, and its tremendous underground wealth; concluded by a history of its educational achievements. Tremont Township, from its outward appearances, reveals only a small part of the wealth it really contains. The history revolves itself around its hidden treasure—coal. Examining a table of evaluations, we readily observe the enviable position it really holds, and it is readily classified as the "richest of townships" with an assessed valuation of \$4,800,000. Thus for the purpose of clarification, we shall divide the history into a number of distinctive diversions; such as, its geography, relation to mineralogy, botany, industrial, and lastly educational.

Geography

In the southwest corner of Schuylkill County, there appears a rather elongated township, almost five times as long as its width, with the following as its boundaries: On the north it is touched by Porter and Frailey Townships, on the east by Reilly Township, on the south by Pine Grove and Washington Townships, and on the west by Lebanon County. The township was originally formed from Pine Grove Township in 1847. The origin of its name can be traced to a French word "Tre-mont", which means three mountains; these three mountains being the Broad, the Stony and the

Red mountains. They are the remnants of the famous Appalachian Mountains, at one time estimated to have been higher than the Rocky Mountains. Thus they can be readily classified as old worn down mountains, which have lost their height, ruggedness, and jagged appearance, and now revealing themselves as rounded-off tops, with gently sloping sides. The evidence of a former greater height can be observed in the partially filled valleys with material that came from the top of the mountains. At the base of the mountains are found vast stretches of huge boulders, piled to the extent that vegetation finds great difficulty in piercing the piled-up rocky crust. By closer examination it is observed that the same type of rocks rested at the base as are found on the summit.

The valleys are extremely narrow. With the abundance of huge boulders that partially fill them, we find the land poorly adapted for farming, hence what farming is done, is done on a small scale, with small rewards to the tiller of the soil. Its advantages are turned elsewhere, as a land of narrow gaps, with the gentle sloping sides of Broad Mountain, it served as an excellent means for crossing the mountains, thus the appearance of a number of excellent highways.

As for highways, the new highway from Pine Grove to Tremont passes through a large portion of the township. This road was completed in 1932. A number of years

previous to 1932 saw the completion of a concrete road from Pottsville passing through Tremont Borough. Tremont Township, and on to the Susquehanna River. An even greater surprise came in the year of 1932; a connecting link between the two former highways was completed, meeting the one highway at the Lorberrys Junction, and the other at Joliett. With such highways in the Township we find easy access to our Capital,—Harrisburg, to our county seat,—Pottsville, and to the rich agricultural regions of the Pine Grove, the Clarks and the Hegins valleys. Readily we can traverse its length of fifteen miles, and its width of three and one-half miles. The proposed new highway from Lebanon to Tower City will cross the entire width of the western part of the township.

The three mountains that figured in the origin of the Township's name, however, are not the only mountains in the township. Sharp Mountain, sometimes called the Panther Head, having some resemblance to that animal's head, its original name Sharp, indicates the shape of the mountain itself—as it comes to an abrupt point—traverses the southern part of the township. Another interesting mountain, nicknamed "Hickory," due to the prevalence of hickory trees on its round sloping sides, is located in front of another mountain called Second Mountain.

An observer, standing on the top of Lincoln Colliery, or the Joliett fire-tower, is greeted by a mountainous view and scenery long to be remembered. Facing in a southern direction we see the Second Mountain; to the right, the Sharp Mountain; to the left, the Red Mountain. In front of the Second Mountain, we see the small round-top hills composing the Hickory Mountains.

To the west is a glimpse of the mountains and valleys that form Jeff's Swamp; a swamp which would make a history in itself. It is nestled at the accumulating point of several valleys that run together at this point, thus acting as a drainage marsh of the surrounding valleys.

Let us turn to Jeff's Swamp for a moment. We find it an isolated and secluded spot, unsuitable for habitation because of its swampy surface, which at times resembles a mire. Even more interesting is the number of trails that pass through it, among them several fire trails and old log-wagon roads. A number of mine breaches dot the surface around the swamp. At a number of places along the old log-wagon roads are found a series of logs, one lying against the other on the road, to prevent the wagons from sinking into the mud. Today many of these logs are still lying there barely peeping above the surface encased in a grove of mud. This is another evidence of its swampiness.

As to the origin of the Swamp's name, Jeff's, the following story is given. A settler by the name of Jeff Umbenhauer cleared a field and established his residence there. Today, one can walk to the field and view its extent, surrounded by stone walls, from stones that came from the fields during the clearing. The foundation rocks of his home are still to be seen. This fact, along with many mining operations, now abandoned, and the plant life common to marshes, make it a most interesting place to travel through on foot. But woe to the traveller who is not careful. As he stands facing several valleys, as the open ends face him, and the numerous trails that traverse the swamp, he is confronted by a problem that has sent many astray of trail, only to retrace themselves a day or so later.

The Inhabitants

Some of the houses in Lorberry, Rausch Creek, and Upper Molleystown were brought from Rausch Gap about three miles east of Cold Spring along the Susquehanna and Schuylkill railroad. There was a small colliery at Rausch Gap, but it was abandoned about 1855. Many of the people moved from that place and settled in Tremont Township. Some of the descendants of these old families are still living in the Township, as the Farrells, the Conways, and the Deegans.

In these early days there were no stores in the Township. The Miller & Company company store was located in Pine Grove, and all employes of the company were compelled to make all their purchases in that store. On Saturday evening of pay day the parents would be loaded up in the "lager-beer" cars and hauled to Pine Grove. They bought their month's provisions at the store, and these were carried home in the "lager-beer" cars.

There was no ready made clothing at that time. Parents bought their goods and made the clothes for the family by hand. In 1855, a tailor by the name of Levi Neidlinger lived near the present site of George C. Wertz's home at Molleystown. Many parents brought the goods to this tailor, who measured the family for suits and cut them. After the suits were cut by the tailor, they were taken home where the mothers sewed them together by hand, as the sewing machine had not yet made its appearance.

Industries

The road through Pine Grove to Sunbury is probably the first road in the Township and is supposed to have been made during the Revolutionary War. Tradition states that it was used by the people in their escape from Wyoming Valley at the time of the massacre of the settlers

by the Indians in 1778. Many Indian arrow heads are to be found in the hills at the present time.

Tremont Township, from the time of its formation, depended entirely upon coal. The three mountains which form its boundaries are filled with veins of coal, ranging from four feet to the mammoth vein, which is seventy feet in thickness. The wealth of these veins of coal has determined the progress of Pine Grove and Tremont.

Coal was mined by Oliver and Stees in 1835. The mining was done in the Sharp Mountains, but these veins have never proved to be a success. Molley's Colliery, from which Molleystown derived its name, was opened in 1850. Molley opened a company store in Pine Grove, which proved more of a success than the colliery, for the veins were in the Sharp Mountain. Dock's Colliery was opened in 1861, but it lasted only about two years. Dock, the superintendent, built a home in Dockstown, or Lower Lorberry. This house has been the home of the Culbert family since 1871, and members of the Culbert family are still occupying it. Dock's Colliery was also in the Sharp Mountain.

The real mining history of the Township begins with the driving of a tunnel in 1851 by Miller and Kitzmiller, about fifty yards west of the large arch at Lorberry. The mammoth vein, ranging from sixty to a hundred feet, was worked. The breaker for the preparation of this coal was run by water power. The coal was shipped from the breaker in small four-wheeled cars, commonly known as "lager-beer" cars.

These cars were run down a plane near the present site of the creek to the foot of the hill, then by gravity to Lorberry Junction. From Lorberry Junction they were drawn by mules to Pine Grove, where the coal was loaded on canal boats for ship-

ment to Reading and Philadelphia. The cars were hauled back again to the colliery by mules.

In 1855 Miller and Kitzmiller sank a slope close to the mouth of the tunnel. This slope was sunk on the mammoth vein. The coal in the Mammoth was mined differently from other veins. There were two men to a breast. Each miner worked a manway up for about thirty feet, then a heading was driven across the breast from one manway to the other. The stump or pillar left between the two manways was not blown down with powder or dynamite as in veins of less thickness; but each miner had a long pricker and poked at the stump until the coal started to run; then all the coal in the breast up to the heading would be loosened and run. Many times they would have six hundred to a thousand cars of loose coal in the chute. It is said that when these chutes were filled with coal, the miners would hire a laborer to look after their breasts and they would take a trip to their native land, either England or Wales. They would receive their pay for the coal in the breast while they were on their vacation. It would take several months to load the loose coal in the breast.

About 1857 Rausch Creek Colliery was opened by Miller and Kitzmiller. This colliery also worked the Mammoth Vein. This colliery was very gaseous, and with the poor ventilation of those times, many men were burned to death or seriously injured by explosions of gas. Two sons of the Culbert family, living in Dock's house at Lower Mollystown, lost their lives in an explosion of gas in 1871. A tunnel was driven from Rausch Creek Colliery to Lorberry Colliery, a distance of 1 1-2 miles. When the Lorberry breaker was shut down in 1868, the coal was hauled from Lorberry to Rauch Creek for preparation. The Miller

Company drove a tunnel from about 100 yards west of the foot of Deegan's well, a distance of 581 feet, through the solid rock to the bottom of the Lorberry slope for the purpose of drainage. A great many veins of coal, cut by this tunnel, have not yet been worked. In driving the tunnel jumpers and hammers were used as nothing was known of jack-hammers in those days.

This tunnel was driven by a man named Rowe, and it is still known as the Rowe's Tunnel. It was reopened in 1922 by the P. & R. C. & I. Company for the purpose of a water course from Lincoln Colliery. The timber that was used at the time it was driven, seventy years before, was in excellent condition and most of it was reset in the tunnel by the Reading Company. A railroad was run from Lorberry Junction to Rausch Creek and from Rausch Creek to Lorberry in 1858. The coal was then shipped by steam engine from the Lorberry Colliery instead of by the "lager-beer" cars. The track for the "lager-beer" cars did not have rails as today, but flat iron rails fastened on heavy sills. The traces of this track may be seen in Mollystown today.

In working the breasts of the Lorberry Colliery, the coal ran very close to the surface of the earth. When a breast of such a vein was worked, immense breaches, or caves, were made so that the Mammoth Vein, where it has been worked, can be traced by the many mine breaches found on the surface. One of these mine breaches was famous for its ice through all the summer. Ice formed from the dropping of water from the top. A great deal of ice was formed and this could be obtained all summer. Parties of young people went on a Sunday afternoon in the summer to the "ice cave" and made ice cream. Ice was carried home in bags for home use.

This ice cave hole was a curiosity for all visitors until about forty years ago when it was filled by the slush from the Lincoln Colliery.

The tunnel for Lincoln Colliery was started in 1869. It was driven by hammer and jumper. The first man killed at Lincoln Colliery was John Schell, who was killed in the spring of 1870.

The first coal was shipped August 1, 1870. The colliery was run continuously until August, 1930, a period of sixty years. During that time two slopes were sunk to reach the coal from the different veins. The Miller and Graeff lease expired in 1884, and the P. & R. C. & I. Company took charge of it. The slopes were sunk to a depth of 800 yards. The veins of coal range in thickness from 4 to 13 feet. The coal is the finest quality of red ash, and is the best heat producing coal sold. The quality of the coal is such that it commands a higher price per ton than any other coal sold in the market. The famous red ash of Lincoln was known far and wide.

A shaft was sunk for the purpose of removing the water from the mines but the water became so strong from the many openings that when there was much rain, the colliery was unable to work, which caused much idleness, especially in the spring of the year. To combat this water, giant electric pumps were installed at a cost of close to \$200,000. The tunnel known as Rowe's Tunnel, driven by the Millers in the sixties, was opened and driven until it struck the third lift in No. 1 slope. This tunnel was used as a water-course for the electric pumps.

The No. 1 Slope at Lincoln is 1000 yards deep. It has been worked extensively for the first 800 yards but little was done in the last 200 yards. This colliery in 1920 employed about 1180 men and pro-

duced about 1200 tons of coal per day. In 1929 it employed about 900 men and produced about 1800 tons per day. The colliery in its day was one of the most up-to-date collieries in the anthracite region. Electricity was used extensively for lighting purposes and for the transportation of the coal. Although Lincoln had almost 60 miles of gangway underground yet by means of electric motors, transportation was rendered cheap and prompt. Twelve motors were used for this purpose.

Kalmia Colliery was opened in 1871 by Philips and Schaeffer. The Big Lykens and the Little Lykens Veins were worked. A small village was built. It had its usual company store, where each employee was practically compelled to buy the necessities of life. This colliery was abandoned about 1886. Some of the coal of these veins was mined by the P. & R. C. & I. Company and prepared at Lincoln Colliery.

Morgan Lewis was the first boss at Lorberry Colliery. His son, William Lewis, was boss at Rausch Creek. He was killed by an accident on the slope. No one knew how the accident happened. David Lewis then became superintendent of the collieries of the Miller Company, a position he held until their lease with the Reading Company expired, in 1884.

Thomas B. Conway was one man who had the distinction of working at Lincoln Colliery from the time it commenced to ship coal, August 1870 until it was abandoned August, 1930, a period of sixty years. He lived for many years in Lorberry, but now lives in Tremont.

Henry Kimmel, who is still living in Lorberry, is an old resident of the township and worked at Lincoln Colliery for over fifty years. He has resided in the same house for the last fifty years.

SCHOOLS

Little is known of the schools of early days. The history of the schools of these days is closely connected to the history of Tremont Borough. The borough was a part of the township until 1866, when it was separated from the Township.

There was great interest in schools in these early days in the township. The first school outside of Tremont Borough in Tremont Twp. was built at Mollystown in 1848. There is no trace of this building left. The school was transferred to the Dock's home in Lower Mollystown in 1876. Part of this building was used as a school room and the remainder as a residence by the Culbert family. In 1887, the present school building was erected in Mollystown. George S. Gage taught for several years at Mollystown. In 1879 he was transferred to Lorberry, and Israel Faust became the teacher at Mollystown, a position he held until he died in 1910.

The old stone school building in Lorberry, which is now used as a dwelling, was erected in 1852. The school was taught for many years by Harry Z. Kuebler, Israel Faust, George Gage and Wm. Owens. Peter S. Berger followed Mr. Owens, and he taught there until the school was abandoned in 1886.

Rausch Creek school was opened in 1870 and was taught for many years by S. C. Kirk, who resigned that position in December, 1878. C. D. Arters commenced to teach in Rausch Creek in 1878 and held that position until 1886.

Lincoln school was opened about 1871, after the opening of Lincoln Colliery. H. W. Hibschan taught there for many years. It was abandoned in 1886.

Kalmia school was opened in 1873. It was taught for many years by a Mr. Daniels. He was followed by

A. P. Yoder, who taught till 1888, when he died. J. C. Noonan, present Supervising Principal of Schuylkill Twp., was elected in 1888, but the school was abandoned that fall.

The first consolidation of schools in the township was made in 1886. The Lincoln and Lorberry schools were united, when the building was erected at Lorberry. C. D. Arters was elected principal, and taught the sixth, seventh and eighth grades. Michael Webb taught the first five grades.

In 1910, the seventh and eighth grades of the township were all transferred to the school building in Lorberry.

A high school was established. The school was classified as a two year high school and the first class was graduated in 1912. The members of the first class were: Blanche Garis, Marguerite Grech, Annie Conway, Joseph Evans, Roy Schoffstall, and Roy Schreffler.

The building was remodeled in 1929. A large auditorium, a manual training room and two grade rooms were added. In that year it was classified as a three year high school.

The township was always known for its great interest in education. It always tried to get the best teachers, no matter what the cost. The salaries of the teachers were always higher than the surrounding districts. A ten months term was established in 1882, which has not been changed since that time.

In the 70's the collieries did not work during the winter months. They were closed around Thanksgiving Day and did not resume until the following spring. The breaker boys went to school during this time.

The minutes of January, 1877, record a censure by the President, David Workman, of the teachers who took off two weeks, one week before Christmas for County Insti-

tute, and the next week for the Christmas holidays. President Workman stated that the teachers took a vacation at a time when the breaker boys were going to school, although the teachers could make up the time at the end of the term, the breaker boys who needed it lost that time.

At the March meeting in 1878, a motion was passed giving the people of the township the use of the school buildings for Sunday School, religious services, and organized literary societies. That motion has never been rescinded in all this time, and today the school buildings are used for various religious services.

Tremont Named From Three Mountains

(From "Pottsville Republican"—"Morning Paper," Nov. 28-Dec. 7, 1934)

This historical record of Tremont Berough has been prepared by the History Department of Tremont High School under the direction of Miss Anna M. Salen. The History of the Schools was prepared by Prof. Chas. E. Chaffee. Many citizens have made contributions and it is desired to mention particularly H. I. Honsberger, Mrs. Louis Maurer and Peter Laux.

The following books and records have been consulted: Archives of Historical Society of Schuylkill County; Archives of the State Library, Harrisburg; History of Schuylkill County printed by Munsell & Co., in 1881; the School Records and School Board Minutes, and various other records.

Tremont, surrounded by three spurs of the Broad Mountains, derives its name therefrom. It is surrounded and underlaid by the Reading's famous red ash anthracite.

It has a population of 2304, of which 99.8% are American born. The property assessed valuation is \$999,512.

It is the junction point of the Lebanon and Tremont Branch and the Mine Hill Branch of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad.

Its chief industry is coal mining, and about 90% of the population of working age are employed or are former employees of this industry.

It has five churches with a membership of 1431, a Sunday School enrollment of 872, church property valuation of \$198,000, and one motorized Volunteer Fire Co. with a membership of 115.

Tremont also boasts of several modern hotels, one motion picture theatre, one public playground, one athletic field, owned by the public school district, mail and parcel post collection and delivery, 17 fraternal organizations with a membership

of 2138, five fraternal organizations owning houses valued at \$117,000, Civic Club Organization, American Legion, Red Cross Chapter, American Legion Auxiliary, Parent-Teachers' Association, Boy Scout Troop, first class public high school, with an enrollment of 280, and owning property valued at \$147,000, a parochial school with an enrollment of 53, and owning property valued at \$15,000.

There are 600 homes in Tremont and 67% are home owners. The town has two banks in good standing, two building and loan associations having resources of \$150,000, 69 business establishments employing 75 persons and a pay roll annually of \$100,000, three well equipped public garages, one modern printing establishment, one weekly newspaper, two shirt factories, which employ 254 people, with an annual pay roll of about \$123,000.

Organizations

Settlement in and about Tremont began in 1816 or 1817. The settlers probably came from Berks County after their great migration. Some

settled in what is now Pine Grove. Others traveled farther westward and settled here. In 1847 Tremont Township was formed from Pine Grove Township. In 1848 the first post office was established with John B. Ziebach, grandfather of Dr. W. J. Schultz, as postmaster.

The Borough of Tremont was incorporated in 1866. The first council was organized Monday evening, July 23, 1866, in the house of Chas. Streicker. Councilmen were: Pres., John Coyle; Secy., S. C. Kirk; Peter Laux, Christ Imschweiler and Anthony Cartona. The first borough treasurer and tax collector was Peter Koerper, Sr. The first tax duplicate amounted to \$850. The present borough officers are: Chief Burgess, Harvey Hoff; Councilmen: John A. Maurer, Pres.; Clarence Neal, Samuel Mack, Charles Wentz, Clarence Imschweiler; Tax Collector, William Heisler; Supervisor, Lewis Pritchard.

Early Settlers

From the number of arrow heads found in the vicinity, it is concluded that this region formed a favorite hunting ground for the Delaware Indians, who once roamed over the land. The mountains were covered with pine timber and laurel bushes.

The Hipple, Pinkertons, Clarks and Mellons were among the first settlers. Dr. Speck was the first physician, Rev. T. A. Fernsby was the first minister, C. D. Hipple was the first attorney. Joseph Bunderstein is believed to have been the first white man buried in the township. His remains lie in the Methodist Cemetery.

The town was illuminated with oil lamps, beginning January 3, 1888, which continued in service until the electric lights were introduced, February 11, 1895. Sixteen 2,000 candle power lamps were leased at \$75 per lamp, per year. They are still in service although more have been added since first installation.

Roads

The first road in the township was the old Sunbury road, which ran from Reading to Sunbury, passing through Lorberry and Joliett. It was constructed during the latter part of the eighteenth century.

Laurel Street was formerly the main street of the borough but in 1876 surveyors planned and laid out what is now Main Street. In 1925 Main Street was paved. This is part of State Highway Route No 209, connecting the countyseat, Pottsville, with the Pennsylvania State Capital, Harrisburg. Tremont is located 11 miles from Pottsville and 48 miles from Harrisburg. In 1931 Tremont and Pine Grove were connected by a concrete road which is part of State Highway Route No. 25.

In 1930 the Phila. and Reading discontinued many of their passenger trains and started bus service between Pottsville and Lykens.

CHURCHES

Welsh Baptist

The Welsh Baptist Church, situated across from Bert Hoff's home on the three cornered piece of land beside the creek, was one of the first churches. Later it was called the "Taffy Church".

Presbyterian

The Presbyterian Church, one of the earliest churches in Tremont, was built on the hill, off Pine St., directly opposite what is now the grade school building. They were not very strong in membership, consequently the Lutherans went in with them having one-half right in the building. Finally the Presbyterians abandoned their work and sold their part of the church to the Lutherans. After the Lutherans built on Main St. the building was used for a factory, and was later destroyed by fire.

St. John's English Evangelical Lutherans

St. John's English Evangelical Lutherans worshipped from 1861 to 1866 in the Presbyterian Church. Then they sold their interest in the church and bought the stone church on Clay St., then under construction and completed it. Rev. Berlin was the first pastor. Rev. Lentz was the last minister, in 1911, when it disbanded.

Trinity United Evangelical Asso.

The Trinity United Evangelical Association in 1894 connected itself with the United Evangelical Church. The congregation was organized in 1859 with Rev. Schell pastor. They had an active church membership and Sunday School under the pastorates of Longsdorf and H. M. Jones. About 1904 or 1905 the weakened congregation disbanded. Rev. N. A. Barr was their last minister.

Reformed Church

The people of the St. Jacob's Reformed Church first worshipped in what is now the United Brethren Church, which they partly helped to build, but the organization for want of attention from Classis was unable to continue and consequently for a number of years was without regular service until it was reorganized, about 1877, under the name of St. Peter's Reformed, in the United Evangelical Church, on Crescent St., where services were held until the present church on Spring St. was built.

An attempt to purchase the stone church on Clay St. in 1880, failed. The present church and parsonage lot was donated by D. B. Althouse. The first church was built in 1881. The steeple and belfry were added in 1886. The parsonage was built in 1891. In 1909 the congregation, under Rev. G. W. Spotts, moved the church back to the alley, remodeled it for a Sunday School room, and in

1911 built the present edifice. Rev. J. K. Wetzel is the present pastor.

Methodist Church

In 1846, Rev. Fernley was sent to Pine Grove Mission but having discovered only one Methodist family, he decided to move on to Tremont which had about twenty miner's dwellings, a store house and a log tavern, but not a church or a school. He preached in the bar room of the log tavern, having hauled slabs from a nearby sawmill, to serve as benches. The bottles had been covered with a white tablecloth. On the bar he found an old Bible and a very old Presbyterian Hymn Book. His text was, "I am not ashamed of the Gospel!" Forty people attended the services and a Methodist Class was formed of five persons, three women and two men. Mr. Hipple, the aged tavern keeper, kindly permitted the use of his bar room for services until the weather moderated, after which outdoor services were held in a grove between Tremont and Donaldson. As attendance increased, a Sunday School was formed. Mr. Spangler, of Phila., presented the ground where the present church stands, for a church and a graveyard. The church was built in 1847. The parsonage was built in 1866. The old church was razed in 1903 and the present edifice was built. Services were held in Union Hall while the church was being built. W. A. Anderman is the present pastor.

Catholic Church

In 1853, when Father Barr was sent from St. John's German Church in Pottsville to take a census of the Catholic families in the west end of the county, he found about forty Irish Catholic families in Middle Creek, and forty more in Donaldson, and German Catholics in Tremont, Tower City, and Newtown. At this time Tremont had about 1600 inhabitants and three Protestant Churches.

Due to a majority of Irish Catholic families, the church became an Irish Catholic Church. In 1853 the ground site for the church was presented to Father Barr and they began to build the church, which was named St. Mary's. In 1854 the name was changed to the Immaculate Conception Church, which is the present day name. At that time there were two hundred families in the surrounding vicinity belonging to St. Mary's. The pastor's residence first was a lodging house on upper Clay St., where the Brixius Row is now. After the church was built, a Dr. Witherill sold his home to the church, to be used as the pastor's residence. Father Barr was followed by Father McLaughlin. The first mass every Sunday morning was said in Tremont. People came from Lorberr, Keffers, Donaldson, and Newtown. The priest then conducted services in Tower City where he had established a small chapel. The Rev. M. J. Coleman is the present pastor.

Lutheran Church

Although there were Lutherans in Tremont in 1840, no organized effort was made until 1853, when Rev. E. S. Henry, of Pine Grove, preached regularly in the incompleated church building on Clay St. About 1855 they began to worship in the Presbyterian Church on Pine St., until 1858, when they formed two congregations: St. John's General Council Church and St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, with separate pastors. In 1866 the St. John's English Lutheran Church bought the stone church on Clay St., and finished the edifice, worshipping there until 1911, when they closed its doors, because only a few members remained.

St. John's German Lutheran Church formed a part of the Minersville parish until 1858, when Rev.

Daniel Sanner became pastor. He served long and faithfully. The Presbyterians abandoned their work and sold their church to them. German was used in church and Sunday School services until 1893, when the evening services were conducted in English. Gradually the German gave way to the English. They built the present edifice in 1904 and renovated it in 1925. They have a large congregation. Rev. R. A. Kline is the pastor at present.

United Brethren Church

Rev. P. M. Holdeman held services and organized a Sunday School, May 4, 1913, in the English Lutheran Church. After a series of open air meetings near the church, the United Brethren Church was organized in June, 1913. In October, 1913, the Conference at Allentown united Barry class and Tremont as a pastoral charge with Rev. Holdeman as pastor. August 11, 1914, they bought the English Lutheran Church. Rev. B. F. Goodman served the charge faithfully and did much to build up the church. R. G. Becketl is the present minister.

Newspapers

The "Tremont News" was started in 1865, Z. Batdorff, Proprietor and Jacob Sanderson, of Washington, D. C., Editor and Publisher. After he left, the paper was run by Shreeeder, Kirk, and C. M. Wolf, of Hanover. In October 1873, U. G. Batdorff took charge and conducted the paper until 1903, when it was discontinued.

In the files of the "West Schuylkill Press," a copy of the "Tremont Union" was found, dated Dec. 6, 1866, Vol. 1, No. 31, and published by Jacob Sanders. This must be the same paper as that referred to above. There is much information of interest in this copy of the "Tremont Union" and we will quote lib-

erally from its news items and advertisements.

In a school letter appearing in the paper reference is made to the fact that 60 pupils attended the high school studying orthography, written arithmetic, grammar, physical geography, mental arithmetic and geology. W. M. Crothers was Principal of the schools.

The churches and pastors were as follows: Methodist—Rev. John S. McConnell; Lutheran—Rev. E. M. Long; Evangelical—Rev. S. P. Rein-
oehl; Catholic—Rev. W. C. McLaughlin.

William Garret was listed as cashier of the First National Bank.

Advertisements of interest appearing in the paper were as follows:

Fruit and Confectionary Store—L. Imschweiler; Clothing Store, Main St. opposite bank—Joseph J. Ball; Eckert & Co., Miners and Shippers of the Celebrated Good Spring Creek Colliery Coal; Eckert & Co., or I. G. & G. S. Reppleir, 329 Walnut St., Philadelphia.

Town Lots—I. P. Becktel, Agent; Life Insurance—Geo. P. Owen, Tremont; Drug Store—H. T. Bailey; Mansion House, Railroad St., near depot, Chas. Slinggluff, Jr.; Tremont Iron Works, furnish steam engines any pumps of any power and capacity for mining and other purposes. Coal breakers of every size and pattern now in use. Coal and drift cars of all sizes and patterns—Z. Batdorff.

Boots and Shoes, Main St., above Pine St., John E. Lehman; Milliner and Dress Maker, Miss H. Bixler; New Tinware Establishment, Main St., 2 doors west of printing office. Joel Sausser; Stoves and Tinware Clay St., Alfred Werner; Dr. J. W. Bird, Main St.; Dry Goods and Groceries, new store on Cresson St., W. B. Maberry.

Operative and Mechanical Dent-

ist, office on Crescent St., next door to Tremont Iron Works, Dr. R. D. Brower; New Tobacco Store, opposite Union Hotel, Main St., all kinds of Segars, Smoking and Chewing Tobacco, I. N. Garrett; Dry Goods and Groceries, oldest store in Tremont, Aaron Eckel, Main St.

This information is of special interest when it is recalled that Tremont Borough was incorporated in 1866.

The "West Schuylkill Press" was first issued by S. C. Kirk in 1877, and discontinued in 1882. On April 5, 1884, J. A. Bechtel put out his first issue and continued until Oct. 1, 1901, when he sold out to R. S. Bashore, with John Spitzner, Editor and Manager. It is now the property of Miss Mae Bashore, with E. W. Williams Editor, and Frank Miller, linotype operator. The paper at first was printed by a hand press. Later a water motor was introduced. Shortly before 1901 a full steam power plant and a cylinder press supplanted the old outfit. Until about 1929 the weekly paper was set up by hand type. When E. R. Williams, present editor, took charge, a linotype machine was installed as well as other modern machinery for job printing. The West Schuylkill Press at the present time is modern and up to date.

Banks

The First National Bank of Tremont was started in 1865 with a paid up capital of \$100,000; President, Z. Batdorff; Cashier, Wm. Garrett. In 1878 Z. Batdorff sold his stock to W. A. and A. W. Huber and it was run under their management for several years. About 1880 the bank went into voluntary liquidation, paying all depositors in full. It was located on Crescent St.

The Branch Bank of the Pine Grove Bank, J. F. Werntz, banker, opened in the place occupied by Ralph Kreis' store, with Rev. Daniel

Sanner, cashier. After Mr. Sanner's death in 1898, his widow was cashier until March 24, 1902, when the bank was removed to R. S. Bashore's law office. Mrs. May Bashore was cashier and it was named Tremont Depository Bank.

The Tremont National Bank started April 1, 1902, with a paid up capital of \$25,000; President, W. C. Hack; Vice President, T. J. Murphy; Cashier, E. J. Power; Solicitor, M. J. Fleming. As business grew they purchased the Schwenk property at the corner of Main and Spring Sts., and erected the fine building now in use. E. J. Power was succeeded as cashier by Harold Landenberger, who died in 1918. F. D. Russell served as cashier until 1931, when he resigned to become treasurer of the Citizens Trust Company in Binghamton, N. Y. Paul Schick of Pottsville was then elected as cashier and is serving in that capacity at the present time.

The good standing of the Tremont National Bank is fully recognized by its ability to withstand the misfortunes of the recent depression and remain open following the bank holiday of March, 1933. In line with the policy of the government to further strengthen all national banks the Tremont National recently increased its stock to \$50,000 all of which was subscribed for by old stockholders and Tremont citizens.

Water Company

The Tremont Water and Gas Co. was organized in 1873 with I. P. Bechtel, President and Price Wetherill, Secretary. After the death of I. P. Bechtel, in 1892, Z. Batdorff was appointed president and J. A. Bechtel, Supt. In 1897 H. S. Gay bought out Bechtel's holdings. It was conducted by Z. Batdorff, U. G. Batdorff, C. B. Sillyman, Dr. J. W. Schultz, H. O. Haag, H. S. Gay and Jacob Hentz. In 1873 they built two reservoirs which still supply the town.

The Penna. Telephone was established in 1896, with the central office and pay station in J. S. Schultz's drug store.

The United Telephone was established in 1902, with the central office in the Bashore building.

The Bell Company has since procured the controlling interest and their office is in the rear of the Masonic Building on Main St.

Fire Organizations

In August 1878, after a fire practically destroyed the entire south side of the Main St. square between Union and Spring Sts., at a loss of \$100,000, the citizens organized a fire company and purchased a fine Silsby fire engine at a cost of nearly \$4,000; 800 feet of leather hose and 200 feet of gum hose. A lot was purchased from C. L. B. Dechant, and a suitable building was erected.

During the fire of 1890, which burned almost the entire north side of Main St., between Pine and Crescent Alley at a loss of \$15,500, Samuel Freeman remained faithfully at his post while his home burned to the ground.

The P. & R. depot burned in 1903.

Jan. 18, 1922, Neiswender's store and dwelling and James Schoffstall's home were entirely destroyed, while the home of Paul Moore and J. E. Tobias were partly destroyed, entailing a great loss. The borough later purchased a modern chemical fire engine. They have 115 members at present. The officers of the fire company for 1934 are: Pres., Frank Wolfe; Vice Pres., L. Fisher; Fire Marshall, Irvin Keeney; Secy. and Treas., Wm. Bernd; Truck Driver, Roy Rissinger; Trustees, Ben Bernd, G. B. Adams, G. I. Derr.

FRATERNAL ORDERS

Tremont Lodge, No. 245, I. O. O. F., was originated Aug. 6, 1847, by virtue of a charter, granted to

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

Samuel Wagonseller, N. G., Thompson A. Godfrey, V. C.; John P. Bause, Secy.; David W. Dunbach, Asst. Secy.; Thos. Parvin, Treas. There were twenty charter members. Its meetings were held in a frame building on N. Crescent St. On July 4, 1850, it moved into its present quarters. Present officers are: N. G., Samuel P. Miller; Secy., H. I. Honsberger; V. N. G., Edwin Kreis; Treas., Charles Bailer.

Washington Camp, No. 76, P. O. S of A., was organized in March, 1867. It meets every Thursday evening in the I. O. O. F. Hall. It has seventy-one members. Present officers are: Pres., Homer Rissinger; Vice Pres., Moses Davis; Secy., Joseph Bernd, Treas., Bert Hoff.

Swatara Lodge, No. 267, F. & A. M., was organized Jan. 24, 1853. Present officers are: Master, Elmer Keiser; Senior Warden, Guy Barr; Junior Warden, Gerney Seitz; Treasurer, Joseph Foulds; Secy., Phaon Yoder; Trustees, Samuel Miller, Christ Stutzman, L. T. Jones.

Charity Council, No. 606, Jr., O. U. A. M., was organized Feb. 10, 1894. It meets every second Tuesday in the month. Present officers are: C., William Salen; Treas., Harry W. Betz; V. C., Clarence Davis; I. S., Harry Scheib; R. S., Leroy Shadle; O. S., Charles Gicker; F. S., Harry Schaeffer; Jr P. C., Nathan Schell; C., John Keip.

Lodge, No. 1333 Loyal Order of Moose, was chartered March 5, 1917, with forty-seven charter members. They purchased the J. C. Dilfield property and rebuilt it. The first floor, known as the Littleton Theatre, is an up to date movie theatre, while the second floor contains the dance hall, etc.

The Order of the Eastern Star was organized April 24, 1920, with twenty-six charter members, in Odd Fellows Hall, with Sallie B. Hancock, Worthy Grand Matron, presiding. Ada M. Richards, Lans-

ford, is the present Worthy Grand Matron.

Golden Rule Council, No. 112, Daughters of America, was instituted October 6, 1917, by Sister Deputy State Councilor of Pottsville. The initiation was performed by members of True Blue No. 81 of Pottsville and Pride of Schuylkill No. 99 of Schuylkill Haven. It has a large and active membership.

Boy Scouts. The Boy Scouts of Tremont were organized in 1916 by Rev. N. A. Barr, Scoutmaster, with 16 registered Scouts. William Neyer was Scoutmaster from 1917 to 1920, with 24 registered Scouts. From 1924 to 1927 Herman Snyder and Edgar Hain were Scoutmasters, and had 28 Scouts. From 1929 to 1934 William F. Long has been the Scoutmaster, and has 24 registered Scouts. In 1917 the Scouts did active service by passing literature, soliciting for the Red Cross and also helped during the Flu epidemic.

Nov. 11, 1932, they had a George Washington Bicentennial Program and dedicated their cabin which the local troop built and paid for. In 1933 they built their local summer and winter camping site at Black Creek. Each Memorial Day the Scouts aid the American Legion by placing wreaths on the graves of the departed soldiers and sailors. Tremont has two Eagle Scouts; Merlin Neal and Franklin Wolfe.

American Legion Auxiliary. The American Legion Auxiliary was organized Nov. 13, 1923, with the following officers: Pres., Mrs. R. S. Bashore; Vice Pres., Mrs. Edward Neal; R. Secy., Margaret Lorenz; C. Secy., Mrs. T. C. Fegley; Treas., Mrs. L. T. Jones. Its purpose is to aid widows and children of soldiers and also aid disabled soldiers who are being treated in hospitals. It did welfare work in the community, viz: by giving baskets of food to the

needy, buying milk for underweight children, and, aided by the citizens, established a community playground on Poplar St. The present officers are: Pres., Mrs. T. C. Fegley, V. Pres., Mrs. J. B. Reinoehl, Jr.; Secy., Mrs. Walter Kreis; Treas., Mrs. L. T. Jones. Mrs. Jones has been the treasurer since the Auxiliary was organized.

West End Civic Club. The West End Civic Club, organized April 29, 1929, was formed to promote a better understanding and to advance the general welfare of the town, with the following officers: Pres., Rev. R. A. Kline; Vice Pres., C. S. Kehler; Treas., F. D. Russell; Secy., F. C. Hatter. The following men have served as president since the organization: C. S. Kehler, S. B. Creveling and R. W. Imschweiler. The present officers are: Pres., A. J. Tobias; Vice Pres., H. S. Bolan; Treas., Paul Shick; Secy., H. C. Dimon. During 1930, when there was no government relief, the club collected \$1700, 154 pairs of shoes, and 1100 garments for relief. The club sponsored and is largely responsible for the road to Pine Grove. It served as labor distributor on many projects. It distributed relief for the state and cooperates in all present relief activities. It directly handles all Red Cross clothing, and maintains an office for relief visitor and clothing distribution. The Civic Club was largely responsible for the presentation of correcting the Good Spring Creek flood condition and acceptance of the CWA project which employed 120 men for some time. The club turned the project over to the borough council, because they considered that body better able to attend to details

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENTS

From the beginning, Tremont has been a mining town, because some of the best veins of anthracite in

the region are found here.

The following veins are under Tremont: Tunnel, Peach Mountain, Little Tracey, Tracey, Little Diamond, Diamond, Little Orchard, Orchard, Primrose, Holmes, Mammoth Vein, Skidmore, Seven Foot, Buck Mountain, etc. Early operations started about 1842. The following operations were under Tremont and were worked about 1847: Bonawitz, Heil and Brower, Clark and McCormick, while Tiley's Tunnel, Spangler's Water Level, Wolfe's Tunnel, Eckel's Tunnel, Harvey Tunnel were slightly west of Tremont and were worked about 1847. Colket's, which is near Donaldson, was worked up until 1884.

Mr. Spangler started a colliery and mined what is now known as the Methodist Hill. One drift entered back of the station, another one back of the Atlantic gasoline tanks, while another one was further back, a little higher up along the mountain. The breaker was in the lot opposite the water tank. This colliery was purchased by Boltz and Lauer, who sold it to Mayberry, and he sold it to Werner. Later Mr. Eckel started a colliery in Holienbach's swamp.

A railroad was built between Tremont and Pine Grove. It was made of wooden rails with strap iron nailed on it. The cars of coal were run by gravity from here to Pine Grove. From there the coal was shipped on the Union Canal. The empty cars were drawn up from Pine Grove to Tremont by mules. A railroad was built connecting Schuylkill Haven and Tremont.

McCormick opened a colliery between Tremont and Donaldson. In 1880 extensive mining interests were located in the immediate neighborhood. These required the use of steam engines, mining pumps, coal breakers and various kinds of complicated machinery. These wants were fully provided for by the ex-

tensive establishments of Adam Ferg, proprietor of the Donaldson Iron Works, and Calvin Brower, proprietor of the Tremont Iron Foundry and Machine Shops. The Tremont Iron Works was started in 1847 by the Proprietors Philip Umholtz and William Lentz. It was partly burned out in 1849. It was rebuilt and sold to Beard, Glass and Ship. From 1852 to 1854 it was run by A. M. Seltzer, when C. A. and A. M. Seltzer became proprietors. It was purchased by Z. Batdorf in 1862, and run by him until 1868, when he put it into a stock company, called the Tremont Iron Mfg. Co. In 1868 Reese and Moody leased the works from the stock company and ran it until 1873, when they abandoned it. In 1874 C. W. Brower took charge and ran it until it was closed out about 1893. The present tennis courts along Crescent St., between Main and Laurel Sts., are located where the Tremont Iron Mfg. Co. had its shops.

Tremont's prosperity from 1920 to 1929 depended on the collieries in surrounding territory. Several years ago the P. & R. C. & I. closed Middle Creek, Good Spring and Lincoln Collieries, Rausch Creek, Lorberry, Middle Creek and Colket Washeries. The Lehigh Co. had abandoned Black Wood Colliery some years before. Consequently, Tremont at present is left with very little employment, because of the closing of these collieries.

At present some men are employed at Brookside and Hazlebrook Collieries, while others travel as far as Mahanoy City for work in and about the mines. During the summer of 1933 the Sherman Coal Co. established the Indian Head Colliery east of Tremont and constructed a new breaker. This new development has provided employment for some from Tremont and numerous employees of the Sher-

man Coal Co. have moved into Tremont.

Obsolete Industries

It is interesting to note the numerous industries that operated in Tremont at one time, a list of them may be of interest.

Saw mill just below town. Tremont Carriage Works run by Gottschall and Blanchford (now H. Bambrick's store). George Scnuler's soap and glue factory, Poplar St. Himmelberger's Mill, which was torn down and rebuilt known as Smith and Rehner's garage.

The office of the Owen Colket Co. on Crescent St.

Mony Schmidt's cigar factory, later Erdman's tinsmith shop, where now the Lutheran Church is. Levi Eckle's, later Frank Parvin's tannery, on Poplar St. Kreis and Linn's machine shop, southeast corner Minor and Poplar Sts. Peter Wonn's, afterward John Haag's limekiln, at the P. & R. railway.

Schwenk's brickyard, near the brewery dam, and on the lot where the high school now stands; Adam Ferg's screen factory, along the railroad where the Tobias properties are located; A squib factory in the old depot; Schwenk and Bailey's screen factory, where Wochley's livery stable was, now occupied by the home of B. S. Evert; E. J. Kepler's marble works, S. E. corner Main and Minor Sts.

J. Deck's marbleworks, southeast corner, Pine and Church Sts.; Christ Michael's glue factory; Conrad Schneiker's glue factory, rear of Fred Berndt's lot, Laurel St.; the grist mill and car shops, southwest corner Main and Crescent Sts.; Boehner's brewery in Frogtown, where Monroe Shephler now lives; J. S. and T. Devaney's hosiery mill on E. Laurel St.

John Laux's hosiery mill on Spring St.; Chas. Alspach's laundry, later operated by Hikes, on Laurel St.; Wm. Graeff's blacksmith

shop, Spring St.; Peter Linn's wheelwright shop, Spring St.; Fred Imshweiler's cigar factory, Main St.; Charles Koerper's cigar factory, Main St.; Peter Koerper's cigar factory, Main St.; Tremont Brewery, Clay St.; John Shay's marble yard, Clay St.

Electric light plant on southeast corner Laurel and Crescent Sts. It was chartered June 18, 1894, turned on the current Feb. 11, 1894. It was sold to the Penna. Power and Light Co., and later dismantled.

The lumber yard, Pine and Bridge Sts. established by Ball & Millington, later owned by Wheeler, then Bastress, has been discontinued.

The saw mill, east of town, owned by James Schoffstall, has since been removed.

Present Industries

The Bob and Baskind shirt factory was opened Jan. 1896, by A. S. Rummel and Son, with 11 hands and 35 machines. They sold out to D. E. Peltyn, Sept. 21, 1896. Some years ago D. E. Peltyn sold out to Bob and Baskind, a New York firm. R. E. Carr and his wife manage the factory at present. They employ 124 hands.

W. S. Fox opened the shirt factory on Laurel St., and after it was destroyed by fire July 3, 1913, the present building was erected. It employs 130 people. Recently Mr. Knapp, a New York business man, purchased it from W. S. Fox. There has been very little work lately.

Sherman Coal Co. leased the coal lands west of town in 1933, and established the Indian Head Colliery. A modern breaker was erected last summer and began operations in October. The opening of this colliery has aided the employment situation in Tremont. Tremont has the charter for the Sherman Colliery Local.

The Penna. Power and Light Co. has a district office employing five

and doing an electrical business of \$100,000 annually. Alfred Tobias is the manager of the district.

(Due to an oversight, the remainder of the Tremont church history was omitted. This follows the Catholic church history.)

WAR RECORDS

Due to the fact that Tremont never had an Armory or Militia, it is hard to procure accurate records of the soldier activities.

Williams Post No. 136, G. A. R., was organized June 10, 1868, with about fifty members. It was disbanded in 1882, but was reorganized in 1884. Active members were: W. V. Lehman, John Seifert, F. C. Schumbacher, Jacob R. Haerter, John Marks, Gabriel Derr, Daniel Maul, Abraham Lehr, C. F. Ochner, John Lehr, A. M. Schuey, and Elias Dilfield. Lieutenant Williams, John Clary, Christ Beidle, Fred Boltz, Christ Lauer, Frank Lehman, Jos. Watts, Conrad Bortelle, Manus Conrad, and several others from Tremont lost their lives in the Civil War.

It was again reorganized in 1904 with Edwin Purcell, Joseph Moody, Penrose Barto, Anthony Fisher, Aaron Osman, Aaron Eckel, E. Horn, W. D. Murphy, H. C. Neidhomer, with A. R. Lamberson and Gabriel Derr serving as officers. Later it was reorganized by A. R. Lamberson, Gabriel Derr, Chas. Kreis, Sr., Edwin Purcell and John Salen from Tremont, Mr. Kessler from Newtown and Mr. Wehry from Donaldson. At present there are 112 graves of G. A. R. veterans in the cemeteries.

The G. A. R. was mustered out when Tremont's Grand Old Veteran, Captain A. R. Lamberson, fell asleep April 21, 1933, aged 91 years. Mr. Lamberson was born in 1842, in Luzerne County and spent his early days there. Responding to an emergency call for volunteers, he

was stationed in South Carolina for two years and participated in Sherman's daring exploits. He also saw service at Newbern and St. Petersburg. He served as special officer for the P. & R. C. & I. Co. for 43 years. He was retired ten years ago and spent his time traveling and writing. For many years he was very active in G. A. R. circles.

Spanish American War Veterans are: Peter Rumpf, John Murphy, George Derr, William Heisler, Harry Freeman, Harry Leonhard, Rud Derr and Harry Dimon, John Enterline and Mr. Eliot, are deceased.

World War. The town of 2267 people gave 141 men to the service of which three were killed and two died from disease. The Brennan-Keip Post, No. 384 of the American Legion was named in honor of Harry Keip who was killed while with the Rainbow Division, and Frank Brennan who was killed with the 28th Division when a shell was thrown into a dugout. The Legion was organized at Mrs. Louise Leidich's home, Dec. 8, 1919, with the following charter members: Dr. A. E. Simonis, James Phillips, Thomas Madden, Clarence Kehler, Ray D. Leidich, Fred D. Russell, John Doyle, Charles W. Kopp and Guernsey Klinger. Later they moved into the Batdorff building, now occupied by Louis Wasserweig. December 5, 1920 the Legion purchased the John Koerper property, renovated it and when it was finished the Legion sponsored the Old Home Week, August, 1925.

Four community boys are buried overseas: Amos Deiter, died overseas, while Anthony Harris, John Morgan and Robert Artz were killed in action. Arthur Rohrbach died in the service in U. S.

The Legion awards two medals to members of the 8th grade every spring for outstanding qualities of citizenship, honesty, scholarship and courtesy.

Overseas veterans are as follows: George Allspach, Ralph Bashore, John Betz, John F. Bonawitz, Frank Brennan, Thos. Brennan, Wm. Brennan, Robert Bretzius, Martin Broderick, Jos. Brower, John Burns, Howard Burton, Chas. Bush, W. H. Bush, Jos. Cooper, Robert Crawford, Amos Deiter, John Doyle, Dr Thos. Doyle, Geo. Dull, Englebert Ebener, Charles Eisenacher, Fred Eisenacher, Homer Erdman, Lloyd Fisher, Harry Gauntlett, John Goodman, Paul Goodman, Lloyd Harner, Richard Hatter, Robert Hatter, Fred Heisler, Chas. Hoff, Harvey Hoff, Arthur Hoffman, Wm. Hoffman, Rev. R. A. Kline, Guernsey Klinger, Harry Keip, Chas. Kopp, Ray Leidich, Wm. Leininger, Norman Loeb, Wm. F. Long, Lieut. Com. Wm. J. Lorenz, Thos. Madden, Fred Maurer, John McCue, Claud Mease, Fred K. Maurer, Dr. Jos. Murphy, Herbert Miller, Simon Miller, Clarence Neal, Geo. Neal, Jas. Philipps, Harvey Pearson, Benj. Reedy, Chas. Reedy, Benj. Reinoehl, Arthur Schaeffer, John Schneider, Christ Stutzman, Dr. A. E. Simonis, Geo. Tobias, Chas. Wentz, Jos. Williams, Carl Beyer.

Those who saw service in U. S. Camps were as follows: Edward Badman, G. L. Barr, Solon V. Barr, Guy Bashore, Harry Ebener, Stanley Bittle, Harvey Bolan, John Broderwick, Jos. Conway, Chas. A. Boyer, Harry Cooper, E. J. Curley, Wm. Ebener, Emil Epple, Dr. T. C. Fegley, Emery Fisher, Farley Fisher, Geo. Fleming, Chas. Foley, John Foley, Vincent Foley, Norton Gammel, Christ Geiger, Harry Green, Chas. Hary, Arthur Hoff, Jas. Holland, Roy Honsberger, John Huth, Herman Imschweiler, Lee Imschweiler, Ralph Imschweiler, Allen Keip, Chas. Kleibenstein, Fred Koehler, Ray Koehler, Harold Kohr, Robert Kopp, Alvin Koppenhaver, Geo. Koppenhaver, Harvey Kreis, Lester Lee, Geo. Leininger, Paul

Lenhart, Harry Lenge, John Lorenz, Geo. Maurer, David Osman Francis Pluck, Geo. Pluck, Lawrence Pluck, Jas. Purcell, Thos. Purcell, Adolph Reed, Allen Reinbold, Earl Reinoehl, Wm. Rine, Arthur Rohrbach, Fred Russell, Fred Schroepe, Irvin Schoffstall, Ray Schoffstall, Harry Simon, Raymond Shoener, Edw. Wertley, Chas. Woll.

Steady Growth in Population

Tremont has had a steady growth in population, as is shown by the following records of the United States census report: 1870, 1,709; 1880, 1,873; 1890, 1,901; 1900, 1,947; 1910, 2,067; 1920, 2,015; 1930, 2,304.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Since Tremont was incorporated as a borough in 1866, the history of the schools will be divided into two parts; namely, Schools before 1866, and History of Public Schools in Tremont Borough.

Schools Before 1866

When the Free Public School Law was placed on the statute books of Pennsylvania, in 1834, the town of Tremont was a small settlement in Pinegrove Twp. The privileges of this law were accepted by few districts in Schuylkill Co. However, Pinegrove Twp. began agitation of the common school question in Sept., 1834. Enthusiastic meetings were held, but opposition was so strong that nothing was accomplished until the spring of 1836, when the village of Pinegrove organized an independent school district, and elected a board of school directors by a majority of one vote. A school was organized in North Pinegrove in 1843, and another in West Pinegrove in 1845.

The remainder of the township was without schools until 1847, when Tremont Twp. was formed

from Pinegrove. A board of school directors was elected in the fall of 1847, and held an organization meeting Feb. 26, 1848, with Levi Pinkerton, Pres.; Dr. Fred Speck, Sec.; John Barndt, Treas., and T. A. Godfrey, Thos. Bailey and Henry Eckle. The first school was opened in the village of Tremont, which had a population of about 500 people.

Public Schools

One school house stood where Wm. Heisler now lives on N. Pine St. Before the opening of the term, Nov. 1, 1848, the "Creek School" was built along "Good Spring Creek" at a cost of \$325. The first teachers were E. W. Kent and Mr. Bennet. The teachers were examined by the school board. Salaries were \$30 per month. The first books adopted were: Smith's Arithmetic and Grammar, Mitchell's Geography, Emerson's Readers, Cobb's Spelling Book, Frost's U. S. History. The term was four months.

In 1849, the third school was opened in the Presbyterian Church, (later the German Lutheran Church, since destroyed by fire) for girls under 13 years of age, Miss Dennis, teacher. Mar. 1, 1850, C. L. Pinkerton opened a three months summer school in the "Creek School." Aug. 31, 1850, Kramm and Pinkerton were elected teachers at \$27 per month, Warren at \$24 and Miss Dennis at \$16. Twenty-six days constituted a month, Saturday afternoon free. In 1851, the salaries decreased \$1 per month. In 1852, a fourth town school opened in Mr. Bleacher's house, Laurel St., with a six months term, and a uniform salary of \$25 per month.

May 7, 1853, by popular vote of 56 pro and 26 con, the citizens accepted the proposal to build a central building, and decided the site.

In 1853, a new school opened in the basement of the M. E. Church, teacher Mr. Owen. In 1854 four lots on Church St. were purchased for \$400, and a new brick building was completed Dec. 1, 1854, at a cost of \$4,000. Public bodies, including school directors, had no authority in the '50's to borrow any large amount of money for school purposes, unless it was made permissible by act of the Legislature. A special act of the Legislature of 1854 gave permission to the School District of Tremont Twp. to borrow \$3,000, for the purpose of erecting a school house. This building was one of the most complete and substantial school buildings in the state at the time. "No school building had higher ceiling or was better lighted than the Tremont Twp. building in the village of Tremont." The fact that the building is still in good condition is proof of its durability. This building is now owned by the Tremont Borough School District, and is used by H. D. Bob Co. as a factory. The school term opened Dec. 18, for a four months term.

The first teachers in the building were: No. 1, Henry Edmunds, \$30; No. 2, Edw. L. Jones, \$30; No. 3, C. L. Pinkerton, \$30; No. 4, Nancy Wheeler, \$25. In 1855, an assistant teacher was elected and Composition and Declamation was introduced. In 1856, the term was seven months. The salary of the principal was \$50; secondary, \$40, and the rest the same as in 1855. In 1857, the stone wall and the fence were built, and shade trees were planted. Algebra and Geometry were introduced.

In 1858, J. K. Krewson, first Co. Supt., opened a Normal School in the house now occupied by Wm. Heisler. Because of the beautiful

scenery around Tremont, and the very commodious school building, this town was selected as the seat for this school. Many of the prominent teachers of the county prepared for teaching here. It attracted students from outside of the county, among them Jesse Newlin, who stayed in the county and became Supt., Krewson's successor as Co. Supt. Globes, maps, charts, mathematical blocks, philosophical instruments, and new seats were purchased for schools Nos. 1 and 2 in 1858. The first time a public examination of teachers was held in town by the Co. Supt. was in 1854. In 1859, Krewson's Normal School was reopened in May. The public school term was increased to eight months. In 1858, a stone school building was built at Lorberry. In 1860, the school was opened at Rausch Creek. In 1862, the Lower Lorberry school was discontinued. A district Institute was organized in Tremont, but existed only one year. In 1863, the Lower Lorberry school reopened, term being nine months. In 1864, Annie Netherwood was elected assistant in No. 5 school, at a salary of \$10 per month. In 1865, the schools of Tremont Twp. had an eight months term. Through the efforts of the teachers, the "Washington Literary Society" was organized, but survived only one year.

When Tremont became a borough in 1866, the village had a school system employing six teachers, and much interest in education was manifested.

Tremont Borough Schools

Fortunately, the present school authorities have in their possession the minute book records of the school boards since the organization of Tremont Borough in 1866. These records were always well kept, and

all transactions fully recorded. Examination of these records prove conclusively that the people of Tremont have supported a creditable system of schools for many years, and have constantly elected men of ability as school board members.

On June 11, 1867, the newly elected borough school board met for reorganization, with John Marks, Pres.; Geo. P. Owen, Sec.; Jacob R. Harter, Treas.; Christian Imschweiler and Christ Machail as school board members. A school tax of 14 mills was levied on an assessed valuation of \$170,000, giving a total tax levy of \$2,380. An eight month school was established, 20 days of teaching, and two days of Institute constituting a month.

On July 12, 1867, Jesse Newlin, Co. Supt. examined the following teachers, and issued certificates for them to teach in the Tremont borough schools: S. C. Kirk, principal, \$57 monthly salary; J. J. Deck, \$43; Albert Denis, \$38; Miss H. S. Clark, \$30; Miss Netherwood, \$27; Miss Phoebe Mellen, \$23; total monthly salaries, \$218.

In Feb., 1868, S. C. Kirk resigned as principal, and Geo. F. Wilson was elected to finish the term at \$70 monthly salary.

In 1868-69, the school term was increased to nine months, and a school tax of 18 mills was levied, 13 mills for operating expenses and five for building and repairs.

In 1872, the West Schuylkill Summer Normal School was founded by S. C. Kirk. This school became a prominent institution in Schuylkill Co. for the training of teachers in preparation for the examinations given by the Co. Supt. Many prominent teachers of the county attended this summer normal school.

The schools of the borough continued with six teachers until the

1875-76 term, when an assistant to the principal was elected. At this time the teachers were as follows: B. F. Pinkerton, Prin.; Jennie Zimmerman, Asst.; Wm. Lehman, John Lehman, Clara Gage, Lizzie Williams, Martha Glanding.

In 1885, J. W. Cooper became principal of the schools, which position he held until the fall of 1893, when he became principal of the Shenandoah High School. Mr. Cooper did much to improve the schools during his principalship. The course of study was fully organized and needed supplies and equipment were provided. The first annual commencement was held in June 1886, Mattie J. Lewis was the one pupil to graduate. At the 6th annual commencement on June 1, 1892, the following were graduated from the school: Jessie J. Jones, Irene Hand, Margaret McGrath, Lizzie Opie, Lizzie Fitzpatrick, Annie Cockill, Florie Mellon, Margaret V. Toby, Annie E. Schroeder, Carrie M. Opie and Harry Koerper.

The history of the affairs that led up to the construction of the present 8 room school building on Pine St. in 1890 is very interesting. In 1888 the schools, housed in what is now the H. D. Bob Co. Factory on Church St., became very crowded. On Jan. 3, 1889, a committee was appointed to investigate a site for a new building. This committee consisted of L. L. Zeller, Elias Dilfield and W. W. Stewart. The upshot of this investigation was that some favored placing the building on Spring St. and others on Pine St. On March 25, 1889 the board split 3-3 on this proposition, but after some discussion a 4-2 vote resulted in favor of placing the building on Spring St. However, later developments resulted in having the building placed on the Foley lots on Pine St.

The plans for this building, prepared by W. A. Fink, provided for a 4-room one story building and the contract was actually let to D. C. Fullmer for \$5947. The plan was to repair the old building but the lowest bid of \$3710 for this remodeling was rejected by the board and new plans were made for the construction of a 2-story 8-room building. The outcome was the construction of the present building on Pine St., at a cost of \$14,959.37, same being accepted by the school board on Jan. 23, 1891. The heating and ventilating system was installed at a cost of \$2250 and the iron fence placed around the building at a cost of \$495.

For the 1890-91 school term the number of teachers was increased to 9 with the following serving: J. W. Cooper, Prin., \$90; Katie Kohr, Asst., \$33; Lina Rohrbach, \$33; Annie Tipton, \$30; Anne Dull, \$28; Ella Seltzer, \$28; Mary Purcell, \$28; Ella Donahue, \$38; Carrie Kauffman, \$32.

Prof. H. G. Dunkleberger, now of Pottsville, taught in the grammar school from 1891 to 1893 and was elected principal in 1893.

At this time the school directors were: H. T. Bailey, Pres.; L. L. Zeller, Sec.; William Moore, Elias Dillfield, W. C. Hack, Aaron Minnig.

In 1892-93 there were 479 pupils enrolled in the schools with nine teachers employed. Total receipts were \$6655.30 and expenditures \$6508.43.

The members of the graduating class of 1893 were: Emma M. Imschweiler, Bessie M. Dunmoyer, Annie L. Schultz, Naomi M. Melon, Martha P. Owens, Edward B. Moore, Stella Schultz, Minerva M. Lamberson, Maggie L. Purcell, Mame A. Kopp, Mary C. Fulmer and Harry J. Dut-ter.

As previously stated, Tremont Borough has been fortunate for many years in having the leading

citizens serve as school directors. Before 1900, prominent citizens to serve as school directors were: W. C. Hack, T. J. Murphy, T. T. Batdorf, Benjamin Kauffman, and J. P. Bechtel. The records show that the affairs were always conducted in a business like manner. Only two instances of temporary loans can be found from 1867 to 1923. when the new high school was constructed. On June 1, 1889, a loan of \$350 was made, and again on June 6, 1901, another loan of \$350 was made. At the present time (1933-34) a similar record is being established as a temporary loan has not been made by the local board for the past 9 years.

In the spring of 1901, the principal's report for the 1900-1901 school term showed that 456 pupils has been enrolled with an average daily attendance of 358. The tax rate was 8 mills, and the total expenses \$3871.02. The monthly cost per pupil for the term was \$1.04.

In 1902 Henry Bretzius, present janitor of the grade building, was elected to that position for the first time.

In 1903 the assessed valuation was \$421,265, with \$283,289 for the East Ward and \$137,976 for the West Ward. The tax levy was 10 mills and the cost per pupil per month was \$1.08.

In 1903 Ira S. Wolcott was elected as principal, and he served in this capacity until the fall of 1912. For the 1912-13 term A. W. Zerbe was elected principal and served until 1929, when Chas. E. Chaffee, the present supervising principal, was elected.

For the 1910-11 school term the teachers were as follows: Ira S. Wolcott, Prin.; Bessie Donmoyer, Asst. Prin.; Katie E. Kohr, Grammar; Anna Salen, Mary Purcell, Francis Fleming, Mary Fleming, John A. Williams, Merl Horn, Katie Lorenz

In 1911 the new school code went into effect reducing the school board membership from six to five, and requiring that school boards organize in December. Accordingly, on December 4, 1911, the newly elected school board members met for reorganization. Those elected and present for reorganization were John S. Devaney (4 yrs.), Pres., Wm. E. Moody (6 yrs.), Secy.; Thomas Smith (4 yrs.), Wm. H. Zeller (2 yrs.), Harry L. Kopp.

For the 1912-13 school term the teachers selected were: A. W. Zerbe, Prin.; Anna M. Salen, Asst. Prin., Katie Kohr, Grammar; H. I. Honsberger, Asst. Grammar; Mary Purcell, Grade 6; Mary Fleming, Grade 5; Minnie Loeb, Grade 4; John Williams, Grade 3; Kathryn Lorenz, Grade 2, Verna Madden, Grade 1.

In 1916-17 the teachers were: A. W. Zerbe, Anna Salen, Katie Kohr, H. I. Honsberger, Mary Purcell, A. E. Carl, R. D. Leidich, Verna Madden, Anna Minnich, Mary Devaney.

For the School Board organization in December 1920, the members were: Dr. G. V. Kalb, Pres.; F. C. Yoder, Vice Pres.; Valentine Spitzner, E. W. Ruppert, Treas.; James Schoffstall.

For the 1920-21 school term the tax rate was 18 mills and \$5 per capita, and the teachers were: A. W. Zerbe, Anna Salen, Mary Purcell, Lewis Withelder, Margaret Lorenz, Ida Maurer, Josephine Spitzner, Verna Madden, Emily Linn, Anna Imschweiler, (Miss Mary Monahan, elected to fill vacancy caused by resignation of Miss Imschweiler.) For the 1921-22 school term, Miss Imschweiler was elected as music supervisor.

During the period from 1915 to 1923 the schools became congested and in 1923 plans were developed for the construction of a modern high school building. On May 7, 1923, E. W. Ruppert and Joseph Maurer were selected as a committee

to locate a site for the construction of such a building. The present site on Clay St. was finally selected the ground being purchased from the P. & R. Coal & Iron Co. On Sept. 21, 1923, bonds for \$65,000 based on an assessed valuation of \$3,500,000 were floated for the purpose of financing the erection of the building. On Nov. 9, 1923, plans drawn up by W. H. Hill, Architect, were accepted and bids were asked for. On Nov. 27, 1923, a contract for \$75,497 was granted to the Bastress Co. for the construction of the building. The plumbing contract totaled \$3658, the heating and ventilating contract \$9,932, the electric contract \$3618.22 and the septic tank and drain contract \$4590. An allowance of \$3780 was also made for extra concrete in the foundation. With all additions the building with all equipment cost \$105,000. In order to meet the additional cost the people were asked, at a special election in 1924, for permission to borrow an additional \$40,000. Permission was granted, the building was completed and accepted by the school board on May 1, 1925. The schools were able to move into the building to complete the term and the commencement in June, 1925, was held in the new high school auditorium. The Tremont High School was recognized as a four year high school for the first time during the 1924-25 term.

The school directors in office during the construction of the new building were: Dr. A. E. Simonis, E. W. Ruppert, Joseph Maurer, Chas. Simmendinger and Edward Fidler.

In December, 1927, the members of the school board after organization were: E. W. Ruppert, Clarence Kehler, L. T. Jones, Fred Russell and Harry Dimon.

For the 1925-26 school term the number of teachers was increased to 15, the following being selected: Grades, Mary Allar, Josephine Spitz-

ner, Verna Madden, Mary Devaney, Ruth Neyer, Ruth Haag, Ida Maurer, Mary Purcell; High School, A. W. Zerbe, Anna Salen, Emily Linn Clara Place, Ruth Hoy, Martha Schach and Anna Imschweiler, music supervisor.

At the present time (1933-34) the assessed valuation of taxable property for school purposes is \$999,992, the tax rate is 27 mills, and the per capita tax is \$3.00. The present indebtedness is \$55,000 and the school property is insured for \$105,000. The total expenditures for 1932-33 were: General Control, \$1,918.46; Instruction, \$21,332.68; Auxiliary Agencies, \$157.55; Operation, \$3,660.31; Maintenance, \$1,532.59; Fixed Charges \$1,028.38; Debt Service, \$5,975.; Capital Outlay, \$3,625.03; Total, \$39,229.96

Tremont Borough received 50% of minimum salaries in State appropriation and this amounted to \$9,762.88 in 1933. Of the nearly one million dollars of assessed valuation, \$307,333 is the assessments of coal rights and properties owned by the coal companies. In 1932 the coal companies paid \$8,941.63 in school taxes.

Since the construction of the new high school building many improvements have been made in the school property and the activities offered by the schools have been expanded. The grade school building on Pine St. was recently painted and electric lights installed. The school grounds were also graded with pulverized rock. The new high school building has been improved and remodeled during the past two years. Boys' and girls' showers have been equipped with hot and cold water and an additional class room has been completed in the basement floor.

In 1929 a commercial department was started in the high school and in 1930 a full time physical education instructor was employed. Vocal music and art has been taught in

the grades and high school for several years. In 1933, a full time instrumental music instructor was employed and a 42 piece band and 33 piece orchestra have been developed. In grades 4, 5, 6, the work has been departmentalized with four teachers. The upper grades and high school have had school club organizations for the past 5 years, boys' and girls' basketball teams are developed and Tremont High participates in athletics through the Schuylkill County Interscholastic Athletic League. The school has also been active in debating, oratorical and reading contests of the county. The six upper grades are organized on a home-room basis and special programs are presented before the student body weekly.

The teachers in charge of the schools for the 1933-34 school term are: Chas. E. Chaffee, A. M. Supv Prin.; Anna M. Salen, Social Science; Alma Simmendinger, Commercial; Leo Miller, Science and Mathematics; Carmine Pepe, Physical Education; Theodore Herman, English and Languages; Anna Imschweiler, Vocal Music; Leslie Harner, Instrumental Music; Emily Linn, Arithmetic, Health, Geography; Ruth Neyer, English, Art; Mary Purcell, Grade 6; Helen Fox, Grade 5; Emily Maurer, Grade 5; Helen Hoff, Grade 4; Verna Madden, Grade 3; Kathryn Karterman, Grade 2; Mary Allar Grade 1.

Parent Teacher Association

In the fall of 1929 a Parent Teacher Association was organized with Mrs. Walter Scheipe, Pres.; Miss Alma Simmendinger, Sec.; and Mrs. Elias Wolfe, Treas. This organization meets once each month during the school term, at which time programs are presented, including features by the schools, discussions of topics of interest, and outside speakers.

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The Parent Teacher Asso. was instrumental in the organization of a Baby Clinic and the Pre-School Clinic. Much has been done in the interest of health and in 1932 the P. T. A. was instrumental in having the tonsils of 43 boys and girls removed at the Pottsville Hospital.

The present officers of the P. T. A. are: Mrs. Harry Long, Pres.; Mrs. Clarence Neal, Secy.; Mrs. Fred Wentz, Treas.

Alumni Association

In 1931 an Alumni Association was organized and each year a meeting or party is held between Christmas and the New Year. The president is Floyd Kalb, and the Secretary, Alma Ruppert.

Parochial School

The Parochial School on Clay St was begun in 1925 by Father Coleman, through Cardinal Dougherty's suggestions. The school was to serve the first 10 grades, but due to the scarcity of pupils during the first few years, only eight grades were taught. They had academic and commercial courses, but have only the academic course now.

At the present time, pupils are given work through the grades and two years of high school. Pupils desiring to complete their high school course enter the junior year of the Public High School.

They specialize in music. The three teachers are Sisters of the I. H. M., viz.: Mother M. Arsena, Sister Mary David and Sister M. Xavier.

The following supervising principals have served in Tremont since the incorporation of the borough in 1866; 1867-68 (1 yr.) S. C. Kirk, Geo. F. Wilson; 1868-71 (3 yrs.) Wm. L. Balentine; 1871-72 (1 yr.) Jacob Zook; 1872-76 (4 yrs.) Benj. F. Pinkerton; 1876-79 (3 yrs.) Wm. Wilhelm; 1879-83 (4 yrs.) Wm. N. Lehman; 1883-85 (2 yrs.) Chas T.

Young; 1885-93 (8 yrs.) J. W. Cooper; 1893-96 (3 yrs.) H. G. Dunkleberger; 1896-1900 (4 yrs.) H. G. Dornhein; 1900-03 (3 yrs.) J. J. Behney; 1903-12 (9 yrs.) Ira S. Wolcott; 1912-29 (17 yrs.) A. W. Zerbe; 1929-Chas. E. Chaffee.

Reminiscences

The following reminiscences of two of the oldest residents of town, Mrs. L. Maurer and Peter Laux, are included as a supplement to the other material used in developing the early history of Tremont.

Mr. Gipple, whose home was situated where the fire house now is, was the first settler in Tremont. His house projected about half way into the street. His barn stood where Waltersdorf's garage now is. The house and barn were made of logs. Later he sold his home to Donaldson Zerbe. For quite awhile there were only three log houses: one built on the three-cornered lot back of Ruff's home, now occupied by Fred Butler; one in the Kettle, almost opposite the High School building, and the one (already mentioned) belonging to Mr. Zerbe. The town was laid out by Messrs. Fulwheeler and Miller. You could then buy a corner lot, 50 ft front, 150 ft. long, for \$50. An ordinary lot could be bought for \$40.

John Hipple, a Frenchman, and his four sons, settled here. They purchased three lots west of the railroad, and built a hotel, the Tremont House, of stone.

Lauer, the first shoemaker, lived on the present site of the A. & P. Store.

Allspach, a German, was the first barber. Andrew Pfeiffer was the first baker. D. B. Althouse came here from Berks Co. and built the Union Hotel below the Railroad. Cyrus Pinkerton was the first lawyer. Maurice Brower was the

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first dentist. Joseph Enzenberger was the first saddler. The first theatre was started by John Livery in the basement of what is now the H. D. Bob & Co. Factory. They had vaudeville. For a while drugs could be purchased at any store. Dr. Provost finally started a drug store, and Harry Bailey took charge of it later.

John Hipple died and was buried in the Lutheran Cemetery. His wife and children went to Kansas City. Mrs. Hipple died and was buried there. Years later her sons returned with her body, which had petrified, due to the alkali water where she was buried. The body was viewed and later interred in the Lutheran Cemetery.

LEADING CITIZENS OF THE PAST

D. B. Althouse, a County Commissioner, and a resident of Tremont for more than 40 years, was born in Berks Co. He did, perhaps, as much as any other citizen of this place to develop the coal interest of the west end of the county, and was at one time engaged in the mining of coal.

Joseph Enzensperger, a native of Germany, was one of the pioneers of this town. He was engaged in the hotel business. After a severe fire about 1865, he erected a three-story brick structure, now known as Quigley's Hotel.

Zach. Batdorff, one of the pioneers of this town, did much to develop Tremont, since he probably owned more property in the town than any other single individual.

Henry Heil was a coal operator, and for a number of years owned East Franklin Colliery. He had amassed a large fortune during the Civil War, and had he retired then, he would have done so with one million, a fabulous sum in those days, but like many others, he re-

mained in the game too long, and lost the greater part of his estate. His name will long be remembered by the people of Tremont, especially the poor people, for he was liberal to a fault.

Eugene Bechtel, a native of Lancaster Co., and an early resident of this place, has been prominently identified with the business interests, not only of this town, but the west end of the county.

Adam Ferg, a native of Germany, lived a great while in Tremont, and has been prominently identified with the business interests of the community.

The Lehman, Marks, Imschweiler, Savage, Streicher, Murphy, Glanding, Brower, Core, Bailey, Weissinger, Seltzer, Eckel, Zeller, Schultz, Hibshman, Bashore, Kehler and Sanner families have long been engaged in business in this place, and have contributed not a little to the prosperity of the borough.

In 1880, there were three physicians: Drs. Koser, Lehr and Rutgers. In 1934 there are three: Dr. J. W. Schultz, Dr. T. C. Fegley and Dr. A. E. Simonis. Dr. Guy Barr is an osteopath, practicing in Tremont and Pottsville.

In 1880, Lawyers Setzer, Moyer and Mortimer had quite a lucrative practice. Several years ago M. J. Fleming, H. O. Haag, lawyers, died. Lawyer R. S. Bashore died Jan. 2, 1934, and his son, Ralph Bashore, now takes care of the legal work of the town. There are two dentists: G. V. Kalb, who took up G. H. Rabenold's work, and H. C. Lorenz.

S. C. Kirk received his primary education in the public schools of Tremont. At the age of 15 he attended a local normal school at Tremont, held by Co. Supt. Krewson. He received a certificate per-

mitting him to teach in the schools of Schuylkill Co. He attended Millersville State Normal School. He was the founder of the West Schuylkill Normal School at Tremont, a local institution that aided worthy students of limited means to obtain an education, some of whom were prominent teachers in the county. He did literary work, contributed to the Boston Pilot, and served as educational editor of the Pottsville Standard, and later took charge of the Tremont News, owned by U. G. Batdorff. In 1877, he founded the West Schuylkill Press, now edited and managed by Miss Mae Bashore. Later he edited the Pottsville Miners Journal. He was a member of the first Council of Tremont Borough, and at one time a member of the State Legislature, and prothonotary of the county.

Hon. Benj. Kaufman, a member of the State Legislature of 1872, a county commissioner and a director of the poor, was one of the most active and prominent residents of the coal region. He was long identified with politics, and stood high in the councils of the Republican party. He was a native of Northumberland Co. He attended school in Llewellyn. At the age of 12 years he secured work in a store. In 1866 he moved to Wiconisco, where he engaged in the store business. In 1868 he became a member of the firm of Savage Brothers and Kaufman, which opened Brookside Colliery, near Tower City, one of the largest in the coal regions. He died at the age of 76.

M. J. Fleming, born in Donaldson, Oct. 14, 1861, began to work in and around the mines at the age of 10 years. He became an engineer and utilized his spare time in studying, in order to procure a teacher's certificate. He taught in

Barry Twp. two years, and also in East Franklin, which was at that time a prosperous mining village. Through constant study and a term at Millersville State Normal School, he received a state permanent certificate, and became principal of the Frailey Twp. schools. After filling this position acceptably, he resigned and studied law in J. F. Whelan's law office, and was admitted to the Bar in 1897. He did not care for criminal court, but served successfully in the orphan's court and civil court. In 1890 he married Miss Hannah A. Murphy. They built the home on Main St., now occupied and owned by Mr. Robert Carr. His death in 1921 was a shock to the community, since he was well liked and modest to a fault.

Harry O. Haag, born in Berks Co., in 1874, moved to Tremont when a child. He was a graduate of Tremont High School, Millersville Normal School, and Georgetown University. He was admitted to the Bar in 1898, and later became the partner of the late Jas. Noecker of Sch. Haven. He was elected to the House of Representatives in 1898, and reelected in 1900. He became director of the First National Bank of Tremont in 1908, and was elected solicitor for that bank in 1912; became vice president in 1920, and succeeded W. C. Hack as president in 1922, serving in that capacity until death. He served as director for more than 21 years, and as solicitor 18 years. In addition, he was vice president of the Pennsylvania National Bank of Pottsville, solicitor for the Tower City National Bank, the Valley View National Bank, for the Tremont, Frailey and Porter Twp. schools, and president of the Tremont Water Co. He died June 27, 1930.

R. S. Bashore, a practicing attorney for 45 years, and prominent in Schuylkill Co., was born in Mannheim Twp., Dec. 29, 1859. For seven years he taught school, and graduated from Kutztown Normal School in 1883. He studied law; was admitted to the Bar in 1889, and located in Tremont the same day. He served as deputy district attorney under Edgar W. Bechtel. He practiced law in Lebanon, Dauphin and Schuylkill Cos., and was also admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court. He was a member of many fraternities, including the Masons. He died Jan. 4, 1934.

LEADING CITIZENS TODAY

T. J. Murphy, a retired business man, was born in Lorberry, in 1854. At the age of ten he began to pick slate, then drove a mule in the mines, worked on the P. & R. R. until 1880, when he was married to Miss Mary Dugan of Palo Alto. They engaged in business in Tremont and succeeded. Mr. Murphy claims much of the success was due to Mrs. Murphy's personality. Ten years later, their son, Joseph, was born. He is now a successful doctor, residing in Pottsville. Mr. Murphy served as borough treasurer, school director, vice president of the National Bank and president of the first Hancock Building and Loan Association, which built many new homes on Pine St., Vaux Ave., and Laurel St. T. J. Murphy and four other men organized the Pine Grove Electric Light and Power Co. It was a success, and in 1900, they sold it to a Phila. and Lancaster Co., who later sold it to the P. P. & L. Co. Due to heavy investments in the Tremont Brewery, Mr. Murphy was forced to take over the business several times and build it up, only to lose heavily, when he had it dismantled at the beginning of pro-

hibition. Due to ill health, he spent some time in Colorado and formed a partnership with J. C. Reagan, purchasing 9700 acres of land, but lost heavily because the real estate men absconded to Mexico. T. J. Murphy and J. H. Himmelberger as partners purchased the old soap factory from the Savage Brothers and rebuilt it into a grist mill. He sold out his interests. He and H. W. Wigmore lost heavily through investments in a Kentucky coal mine.

In 1921 he sold his extensive business and property to L. T. Jones and purchased the Fred Sanner home, which he and his sister, Mrs. Hannah Fleming now occupy. He enjoys fishing trips to the Chesapeake Bay and usually has a big catch. He still takes an active interest in the upbuilding of the town.

L. T. Jones

L. T. Jones, noted for his unselfish community work, was born at Williamstown, 1879, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. F. Jones. Later he and his father purchased the J. W. Durbin Department Store in Tower City, and operated as Wm. F. Jones & Son. In 1906 he became manager of the business of his father-in-law, Reilly Schwalm, at Donaldson. In 1912 he purchased the business. In 1921 he moved to Tremont and purchased the general store including the stock and buildings of T. J. Murphy. His store has been modernized from time to time. He served on the school board from 1926 to 1933 and was instrumental in bringing about many improvements in school affairs. Mr. Jones is one of the outstanding community spirited citizens of Tremont. He is ever ready to give of time and money for the betterment of the community.

R. M. Bashore

R. M. Bashore, born in Tremont in 1894, graduated from Tremont High School in 1912, from Conway Hall, Carlisle, 1913, and received his

A. B. Degree at Dickinson College in 1917. He served in the World War from 1917 to 1919. He received Degrees LLB & AM from Dickinson School in 1921. He was admitted to the Bar of Schuylkill Co., Sept. 12, 1921, and also to the Bar of the Supreme Court and Superior Court of Pennsylvania and United States District Court. He practiced law with his father at Tremont and Pottsville. He practiced in all the courts of Schuylkill Co. At present he is the county solicitor and on Dec. 4, 1934, was appointed Secy. of Forests and Waters in the cabinet of Gov.-elect Geo. H. Earle.

Dr. Guy L. Barr

Guy L. Barr, the son of Rev. and Mrs. N. A. Barr, was born in Danielsville, Northumberland Co., in 1895. He graduated from the public schools of Steelton, Pa., in 1913 and from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathy in 1907. He passed the state board exams of New Jersey and Pennsylvania and received the legal right to practice osteopathy in both states. In 1917 he enlisted in the U. S. Navy for the duration of the World War. He began the practice of osteopathy as a profession in Tremont and Pottsville in 1919.

Dr. A. E. Simonis

Dr. A. E. Simonis was born in Philadelphia, Dec. 28, 1886, of German parentage. He was educated in the public schools and in the Central High School of Phila. He graduated from the Jefferson Medical School in 1908 and served an internship at the Philadelphia General Hospital and a special internship at the St. Christopher's Hospital for children in Philadelphia. He spent three years as assistant physician in the State Hospital for feeble minded and epileptic children at Spring City, Pa. He has practiced medicine in Tremont since 1915. He served two years in the

World War, one year of which was served in France with Base Hospital No. 22. He is the physician in charge of the Children's Health Centre in Tremont. He served four years on the Tremont School Board from 1922 to 1926.

Dr. T. C. Fegley

Dr. T. C. Fegley was born in St. Clair, July 2, 1876. He spent his boyhood in Orwigsburg, graduated from high school in 1893, and organized their High School Alumni Association. He studied in Dr. A. H. Halberstadt's office, 18 months, graduated from East Stroudsburg Normal School in 1894, and from the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania in 1899. He served as interne in Pottsville Hospital for 15 months and has practiced medicine in Tremont since 1900. He served for some time as a staff surgeon at the Pottsville Hospital. He was elected coroner of Schuylkill County in 1928, and is now serving his second term.

Dr. J. W. Schultz

Dr. J. W. Schultz was born in Tremont, 1873. He graduated from Medico Chirurgical College, Phila., in 1895, and has practiced medicine in Tremont and vicinity since August, 1895. He is a member of the Schuylkill County Medical Society, also a member of the Associate Staff Pottsville Hospital, and President of Tremont National Bank.

Dr. G. V. Kalb

Dr. G. V. Kalb was born in Westcoesville, Lehigh County, March 20, 1884. He spent his boyhood in Allentown, and graduated from the Philadelphia Dental College, (now connected with Temple University), in 1904. He opened offices in Tower City but soon moved to Tremont, and took over the extensive dental business of Dr. G. H. Rabenold, his brother-in-law, who moved to Allentown. Dr. Kalb's musical ability is proven by the fact that he has

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been choir leader of St. Peter's Reformed Church for the past twenty-six years. He also was leader of the Tremont Band for several years

Ray D. Leidich

Ray D. Leidich, born in Tremont, Oct. 12, 1893, graduated from Tremont High School in 1912, and from Bloomsburg State Normal School in 1916. He taught school in Tremont

Borough, 1916-1917, and served overseas during the World War with the 28th Division, 1917-1919. He attended Susquehanna University in 1922 and was elected to the State Legislature in 1924, serving four terms. He coached athletics in Tremont High School, 1925-1926, and was elected county controller in 1932.



Porter Township Named After Judge

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* December 8-18, 1934)

By J. O. Zeigler and T. E. Moser, Teachers in The Porter Township High School

Porter Township, named for Judge Porter, first judge of the Schuylkill County court, was separated from Lower Mahantongo Township in 1840. In 1847, a portion of Porter was detached to form Frailey Township.

Williams Valley, one of the most picturesque in Pennsylvania, famed for the beauty of its scenery, derives its name from two men, father and son, Daniel and Ennier Williams, who as early as 1774 took up two tracts of land in their own names. A number of other tracts were taken in the names of Cline, Scull, Mifflin, Cox and Lengel.

It is reported that Ennier Williams, the son, lived in the valley a few years during the Revolution, but the tradition cannot be positively verified. He was, on his mother's side, of Indian blood, she having been a daughter of Kushwa, chief of the Kushwa tribe, a branch of the Delawares. Daniel Williams, the father, was noted for his stature, as is related, standing six feet four inches in height, with broad shoulders and a deep chest, and having remarkably long arms and large hands. Traditions of this man are numerous and all of them agree that physically and mentally he was extraordinary.

Peters Mountain divides the township into two valleys, Williams and Clarks, starting just opposite the old Seeley House, which was located on what is now Maple Heights, Tower City. Mr. Seeley had the first frame house that was built in the township. This valley in those days

was a great deer hunting ground, and sportsmen came long distances annually to hunt there.

A large portion of the lands in Porter Township not taken up by the Williamses was the property of James Wilson, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and a judge of the Supreme Court of the United States. Wilson never occupied these lands, and about 1796 all his land was sold, and one John Lewis Barde, an iron monger of Birdsboro, Berks County, became the owner. Barde was subsequently sold out by the sheriff of Berks County, (Schuylkill County being then a part of Berks) under judgment, and all the coal and timber lands which were originally Wilson's became vested in Samuel A. Munson and Helen E. M. Williams, of Utica, N. Y.

Daniel Green, of Reading, Pa., built the first cabin in 1803, on the top of Broad Mountain. This was later known as Keffer's Tavern, and afterwards as Joliett's Tavern. (Some say Frederick Weiss built this tavern near the close of the 18th century). In 1805, becoming disgusted with his venture, Green sold out to Christian Bartsche, who sold it to Joseph Keffer the following year. Keffer continued in possession until about 1830, when he moved to Milton, Pa.

Some Early Taverns

The Keffer Tavern, being situated on the road from Tulpehocken, in Berks County, to Sunbury, in Northumberland County, became a

landmark "known to all men." It was the rendezvous of teamsters, cattle drovers, and country produce dealers. During the War of 1812, or rather what was then called the "Baltimore War", it was a hiding place for drafted men. The saw-mill at the back of the tavern was their retreat.

After Joseph Keffer left, the Keffer Tavern was occupied continuously as a tavern until 1880, when it was destroyed by fire. Among those who resided there were Daniel Harvey, Francis Sporetzer, Nicholas Bretzius, John Brown, Edward F. Wiest, William Hechler, and Emanuel Jenkin, who resided there at the time of the fire.

At the foot of the mountain the "Feather Tavern" was located, another old stand; and about four miles west of the Keffer Tavern, "Ney's Place"; these completed a trio of resorts for hunters and others who journeyed among the mountains. Many incidents of interest have transpired along the line of these old places. At one time a man by the name of Nicholas Carl, a brother-in-law of Joseph Keffer, who had been placed by him to live in the tavern, when Mr. Keffer, located upon the "Leshner" tract of land, was shot by a friend while out hunting, under the delusion that Carl was a bear. Fortunately he recovered from the effects of the wound.

On the site of the residence of Henry Rowe, now George Kline's, Reinerton, about 1842, was erected a house and barn of considerable dimensions. The first post office and store were located there, and known until 1869 as the Bearmont post office and store, when the store was abandoned as such. The same year Joliett, Orwin, and Tower City post offices were established. Daniel and Elias Shucker were the owners of the Rowe property, also of a large farm of about 360 acres lying far-

ther up the valley. They sold their holdings to George Reiner, Jacob Kohler, Henry and Cyrus Rowe.

Before the formation of the township, the following named persons were the leading persons of the township: George Reiner, John Hand, John Houtz, Jonathan Neidlinger, Valentine Achternacht, Levi Fahler, Alexander Thompson, Jacob and Peter Miller.

In 1829 George Werner took up a tract of land of about 340 acres, near the northern boundary line of Porter, and lived there for several years. He had a brother, Christopher, or "Stoffle", as he was called, who died about 1869 in Fox's Valley, a short distance west of Abraham Ernst's place. "Stoffle" Werner was a character in his way—jovial, hardy, ready for hard work or play, fond of children and a "hale fellow well met" generally. He roamed through the country. Williams Valley was his especial delight. While hunting on Peters Mountain in 1843, in company with John T. Seeley, they came to the "big deer lick." It was very cold, and "Stoffle" suggested to Seeley the propriety of building a fire at which to warm themselves, while they were watching the lick. Seeley, after taking a pull at the bottle, started in search of wood. He had hardly gone fifty yards when a large buck came down the path, evidently chased by other hunters or worried by dogs. "Stoffle" on the spur of the moment grasped his rifle, aimed at the buck, shot him through the neck, and lodged the bullet in Seeley's thigh. Seeley was lame from that time till his death, and the deer that was shot through the neck never put in an appearance.

Shortly after the Seeleys came into Williams Valley, there was a man living on Stony Mountain called the "Pirate." He was a man of huge dimensions, with a beard

which would vie with Rip Van Winkle's. He claimed to have been sent by Thomas O'Brien of Reading to take possession in the name of Chamberlin, O'Brien & Co. The "Pirate" built a little log hut on the side of the mountain. This was known as "possession house." Isaac Sponsler, Sr., built a possession house for the Reading Company at the extreme north east end of Muir. It was afterward occupied by August Spatzer and now by George Attley.

The First Brick Building

The first brick building in the township (now owned by John Reinhart, Tower City), was a dwelling erected in 1870 by John B. Mattis, an enterprising tanner. He also built a steam tannery, which was the only one in the township.

Up to 1870 there was no regular physician in the township. Practitioners since then have been: Drs. E. F. Phillips, S. DeVeney, A. M. Miller, R. B. Wilson, A. O. Miller, W. A. Haak, Wm. Knauber, David Hawk, Harry Stutzman, R. H. Stutzman, Donald Kartermann. J. Wallace McCool was a practicing attorney, 1870. Now Joseph Seesholtz and Howard Stutzman are the attorneys, both living in Tower City Borough.

Reiner City, (now Muir), is in the southeastern part of the township. It was laid out by George Reiner and Peter Schwalm in 1869. It contained one hotel, kept by J. T. Bettinger, in 1874. Sheridan is a western addition, which was laid out by Alexander Thompson in 1870. Ostermanville, (now Joliett) was laid out by Mr. Osterman. Orwin was laid out by Charlemagne Tower and Henry Updegrove, who bought the land from John Dietrich, after whom it was originally named Johnstown in 1870. Bear-

mont, (now Reinerton), is a hamlet east of Tower City. Good Spring located in the northeastern part of the township received its name from the spring of excellent water nearby. Had all these different villages been concentrated at one central point there would be a population of approximately three thousand people, having all the advantages to be gained by concentrated power and influence.

SHERIDAN

Sheridan, lying west of Tower City, was laid out by George M. Beadle, surveyor of Tremont, for Alexander Thompson in 1870. Mr. Thompson was of Scotch birth, who came to America and settled at what was then Yorkville, a part of Pottsville City. He prospered and sold his lands there, and came to the Williams Valley about 1868. He lived just south of Sheridan on the farm which is now the property of Mr. Yerger. Here he erected a stone grist mill run by water power, the water being conducted thru a race from a dam on Wiconisco creek about 1000 feet east of the mill. There was a saw mill also run by water power, below the breast of the dam. The grist mill was operated by Mr. Rabuck, who with his family lived in the mill. The saw mill was operated by some of the sons of Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Thompson was a man of fine physique and sterling character. He was the father of 23 children, nearly all of whom have died or moved to other parts of the country, although Elmer and Rebecca (Mrs. Hopkins Evans) still reside at Sheridan. Numerous grandchildren and other descendants of the original Thompson live in the township.

The Thompson boys all took an active part in the early development of the Williams Valley and were noted for their staunch Republicanism, following in the footsteps of their father, who in the early days of Porter Township would walk to Pottsville to attend the Republican County Convention. There were no railroad accommodations at that time. The story is told of how he walked home from a Pottsville convention, then walked to Williamstown Colliery to complete a work shift. Truly there were giants in those days.

Among his sons was David P., who served in the Civil War, was badly wounded in action, being shot through the head. He lived many years after the war.

Alexander F. was another son who served in the Civil War. Afterward he attended the Freeburg Academy. He moved to Lykens where he was engaged in the mercantile business. He took up the study of law, was admitted to the Dauphin County Bar, was elected to the State Legislature several terms, became a Senator, retired from politics and pursued the practice of law until the time of his death.

Sheridan extends from the Sulphur Creek, the dividing line between Tower City and Sheridan, west to what is called the Mill Road. The first house in Sheridan was built in 1869 by Wm. Henry, a carpenter, who, with his family, occupied it. They were the first settlers of the town. The house is now owned and occupied by Mrs. Maclada Thompson, widow of Abe Thompson, one of the sons of Alexander Thompson. The next house was erected at the extreme northwest end of Sheridan, just opposite the present home of Mrs. Hopkins Evans, and was occupied by Thos.

Williams, who had a restaurant in the basement. In 1871 the Possession House, which still stands, about 300 feet north of the Valendo Gas Station, was erected and occupied by Wm. Klinger and family. Mr. Henry sold his home to Elias Goodman, and moved into the house now owned and occupied by Mrs. Harry Thompson. About this time, W. W. Thompson built a house on the northwest corner of the side street running up from the Sheridan Gun Club's property, and the main street, and occupied it with his family.

Mr. Henry erected the Dreisigacker building for the father of Undertaker J. F. Dreisigacker, who came here from Tamaqua. With his family he conducted an undertaking and furniture business up to the time of his death, after which his son, J. F. Dreisigacker, took over the business, and is still conducting it. The elder Dreisigackers were typical Germans, and were members of the Lutheran Church. Every Sunday, Mother Dreisigacker could be seen going to church with a large rolled-up umbrella under her arm, to be prepared for rain.

In 1870, Wm. Henry was elected Justice of the Peace in Porter Twp. and served four terms of five years each. At the present time there are only two persons living who made their homes in Sheridan when it was laid out in 1879; viz.: John Thompson, a son of Alexander Thompson, and F. P. Henry, a retired school teacher, who lives in Sheridan. Mr. Henry is a son of Wm. Henry, the first settler of Sheridan.

Sheridan has two hotels. The proprietors are: Mary Snesavage and Joseph Philips. There are two grocery stores, one run by Arthur Thompson and Eli Kaufman, and

the other by Harry Wetzel. There are three gasoline stations: Sterling Oil Co., Frank Adams and one by Maurice Newmeister.

THE TULPEHOCKEN PATH

The Indian village of Shamokin (now Sunbury) was a central point from which numerous paths branched out in various directions. Traces of some of these primitive highways of the Red men are still to be seen, while others have been converted into leading roads of travel. By one of these rude trails, ancient "Shamokin" was connected with the Tulpehocken region, and hence was called the Tulpehocken path. Its frequent use by the Indians along the Susquehanna, caused it to be a well beaten track, which the traders used as a bridle path for their pack horses, in carrying their merchandise to exchange with the Indians for their furs, which soon became a large and profitable business. The course of this path was in a southeasterly direction. Starting from the river at Sunbury, it passed through Rockefeller, Little Mahanoy, Washington and Jordan Twps., of Northumberland Co., entered Schuylkill Co. at Klingerstown, passed through the gap at Klingerstown into the Lykens Valley, through the Lykens Valley east to Rausch Gap to near Joliett, Lincoln and Pinegrove to Tulpehocken, the residence of Conrad Weiser, the Indian interpreter, and from there to Sinking Springs and Reading.

People Who Traveled This Path

It would be interesting to give extracts from the accounts of some of the persons who traveled over this route, but space forbids such a diversion from the main subject,

and we will only name a few who passed over this path at various periods. In 1728, Smith and Petty, two Indian traders, were sent to Shamokin by the provincial council, with messages to the Indians residing there. At this time the town had over 50 wigwams.

The vice-king of the Six Nations, Shikellamy, and Alumoppees, the king of the Delawares, made many trips over this route, in their official capacities. Count Zinzendorf and some Moravian missionaries came to Shamokin in 1742 and held the first religious services in this region. Conrad Weiser, the special Indian agent of the province, made many trips over this route in his official visits to the Indians. We will give one of these trips as an example of his numerous and onerous duties. During 1747, learning that Shikellamy was suffering from want of food, he hurried to this "good friend of the Whites," immediate relief. He sent out a party with pack horses, bringing with them nine bushels of wheat flour. This was probably the first importation of bread stuffs to the county seat of Northumberland Co.

Col. Clapham, the builder and commander of Fort Augusta, becoming disgusted with the treatment given him by the province, resigned. Not wishing to meet his successor, who came up the river in boats from Fort Harris, he took the Tulpehocken path on his return to Phila., in order to escape a meeting.

Another trail passing through Porter Township is described as follows: "In making conjectures as to the probable route or course of these paths, we may not always have the same point in view that the Indian had, and it must be remembered, too, that the conditions were then very different. Many

passes and gaps, and the lowlands now dry and passable, were then impenetrable swamps. A map made by the late Thomas J. Baird, an eminent land surveyor of the earlier days, dated in 1852, and drawn from surveys made in 1837, and perhaps earlier, locates an Indian path northward from the Swatara River through the Talihao gap in the Blue Mountains, thence to the small stream over which the high bridge on the Schuylkill and Susquehanna Railroad is erected, thence up this stream to a point near Elwood Station, thence crossing the Second Mountain at Elwood and across the narrow valley to a gap near the edge of DeHass swamp, thence across Stone Mountain into Williams Valley, at a point near the farm of Waldo Coulter, near Muir. Here the path is intersected by another from the east, and running parallel with the valley, westwardly towards the Susquehanna River to Shamokin, now Sunbury. This is the path through which Andrew Lycan, his son, John Lycan, John Revolt, Ludwig Shut and a negro man retreated after having been attacked on Lycan's improvement in Lykens Valley on Mar. 7, 1756, by 16 or more Indians, and killing three or more of them. The Lycans party were all wounded, but all escaped. They were the first settlers in that valley.

ROADS

The first roads were simply trails to and from the homes which were built in hollows close to springs. These trails became dirt roads which were increased as the population increased. They were re-

paired each year by opening the ditches and shoveling the ground into the middle, rounding them off toward the sides. This work was done at public expense. Jacob Miller and John Hand were the first road supervisors in 1841. In those days, boys and girls went barefooted in the summertime. They liked to run, dragging their feet, and stirring up the dust, which was fine, cool and sometimes five or six inches deep. During rainy seasons the mud was even deeper. Then, too, small brooks had no bridges, and people crossed by stepping from stone to stone, or jumping across.

In 1884, road making took the second turn for improvement, when John Reiner, supervisor, now deceased, made a short piece of solid road by using stone. This road was between Hoffman's store to the top of the hill at the Half Way House, or Eisenacher's Hotel, Muir.

Adam Bendigo, deceased, became supervisor in 1890. He held this office for many years, and was known for the good roads he built throughout the township.

The next boost given this project was when Geo. Schwalm, Geo. Reiner and Eronemus Houtz were the supervisors. They bought a stone crusher and dump wagons, by means of which all the roads were more cheaply improved and repaired. The first tarvia roads were made in 1924.

In 1925 the state gave it another lift. By its appropriations every road is now either tarvia or cement. This began during the term of office of the supervisors, John Batdorf, Ruben Berger and Henry Unger.

The Schuylkill Co. Court granted to Charlemagne Tower permission to survey and build a road from Tower City to Keffers. It was completed in 1873, and taken over by the township and repaired for the first time in 1883. Jacob Brown and Wm. Rightler were the supervisors that repaired the road. This road is now a part of Lykens Trail, Route 209, from Port Jarvis on the Delaware to Clarke's Ferry on the Susquehanna.

In 1911 Porter Township had 33 miles of road to keep in repair. Since then the state has taken over all but 11 miles.

At the time Sheridan was laid out in town lots, there was a road running south from the public road at the west of the Sheridan line, known as the Mill Road and down to the Grist Mill, turning east and running along the Mill Race to the saw mill, then turning south, crossing the creek and skirting Peters Mountain, eastward, terminating on the present road from Tower City to Clarks Valley, where Harry Kuntzleman's house now stands.

STAGE COACHES

In 1868 when Tower City, then a part of Porter Township, was laid out in town lots, there was no railroad closer than Tremont. A stage coach was run from Lykens to Tremont. It made three round trips a week, leaving Lykens, Monday, Wednesday and Friday; and leaving Tremont, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. From Tremont a train ran to Pinegrove and Auburn. Persons wanting to go to Pottsville or Philadelphia would change cars at Auburn and get a train on the main line between Philadelphia and Pottsville. Several years later, when

the railroad was built into West Brookside Colliery there was a small freight and passenger station built on the mountain just east of East Brookside Colliery. The stage was now run between Lykens and the station on the hill, which was known as Tower City Depot. About this time the post office was moved from the Rowe farm to Tower City in the store rooms of the Tower City House. The postmaster was Mr. Bossler. He afterwards sold the store business to Sherman and Co. Mr. Sherman became the postmaster. He moved the store stock and the post office across the street into the Odd Fellows building.

In the early history of the Tower City post office, when the mail arrived and they were "changing the same," the postmaster would call out the names of the persons for whom he had mail. Anyone in the store room hearing his name would call out, "here." The mail would then be tossed over the top of the desk. A cigar box held all the mail.

The names of some of the early stage coach drivers were: William Romberger, Tobias Row, H. K. Updegrove, Harry Tallman, Abe Carl and Nick Brocious. The first three drove to Tremont.

RAILROADS

The first portion of the Lebanon and Tremont Branch of the Reading Railroad constructed was the line between Pine Grove and Lorberrry Junction, built in 1830, by the Union Canal Co. of Pennsylvania, which was incorporated, on May 30, 1811, to take over the property and rights formerly acquired by the President, Managers and Company of the Schuylkill and Susquehanna Navigation, incorporated, Dec. 3, 1791, and the President, Managers

and Company of the Delaware and Schuylkill Canal and Navigation, incorporated, May 30, 1792. While the Union Canal Company and its two predecessors were formed primarily for the purpose of opening canal or water communication between the Delaware and Susquehanna Rivers, the Union Canal Co. constructed this short line of about four miles of railroad as a part of its works. Robert Morris, the Revolutionary patriot, was interested in the two earlier companies.

The next portions of this branch constructed were the extensions from Lorberry Junction to Donaldson, 1842 to 1851, and from Donaldson to Brookside, 1868 to 1869.

On Nov. 26, 1869, the line between Pine Grove and the Lebanon-Schuylkill County Line was opened to traffic, and on March 7, 1870, the extension from the County Line to Lebanon was opened to traffic.

The extension to Donaldson was constructed by the Swatara Railroad Company, principally for the purpose of developing coal land in which Judge Wm. Donaldson, President of the Swatara Railroad Co. for many years, had a large interest. The extension from Donaldson to Brookside was built by the Good Spring Railroad Co. to form a connection with Summit Branch Railroad which was at that time leased to Lykens Valley Railroad Company, near Williamstown. The extension was completed only to Brookside, Tower City Junction, where a connection was later made with the present Williams Valley Railroad.

Williams Valley Railroad

The business people of Tower City were inconvenienced considerably in getting their goods from the Tower City railroad station, near East Brookside, near the top of the mountain. In winter the teamsters had to fasten a heavy chain from the coupling pole to the wheel, so

that it would drag on the ice under the wheel acting as a brake. They planned to construct a wagon road properly graded from the station to Tower Park (where Watkins now live). This was to be a toll road. They, not knowing how to determine the cost, consulted John Jameson, who was then building a railroad from Kalmia into Clark's Valley for the purpose of bringing out timber for the P. & R. C. & I. Co. Jameson suggested that they build a steam road instead. His plan was that the community furnish \$13,000 and he would raise the balance.

After the charter was granted in 1893 to Tower City, the people of Williamstown decided to invite Jameson to extend the line to Williamstown. The people of Williamstown were to pay \$10,000 and arrange for a free "right of way." Jameson was to supply the balance. The people of Lykens and Wiconisco also became interested. They held meetings at which it was decided to have the railroad extend to the former place. They were to raise \$17,000 and Jameson the remainder.

The people of the valley were to raise one half of the cost and Jameson the other half.

The contractor arranged with several gang bosses to furnish men for the work. It was customary for these bosses to assemble immigrants, who were unable to speak English, into gangs of 100 to 150. The contractor would have the assemblers take over certain sections of the road for construction. He would build a temporary "batch shanty," which would accommodate 30 to 40 men. The pay at that time was one dollar for a ten hour day. However, ten cents per day was taken from each worker, which went to the assembler. Some say that by collective buying these workers were able to save money even at this low wage.

One of these men was given a job on the repair gang, after the road was in operation, at a salary of \$1.35 per day. Having worked a few years he went to the president of the road at that time, C. M. Kaufman, and gave him \$2,000 in cash to be placed in the Miners Deposit Bank at Lykens. This was the only bank between Pottsville and Millersburg at the time.

COAL

The history of anthracite may truly be called the history of Porter Township. Upon its development and progress depends almost entirely the development and progress of the population.

Nature was indeed kind in depositing so profusely these shining black diamonds in our hills and mountains.

Some years before Brookside was opened, the Federal Government sent a number of engineers to investigate the mineral resources of the mountains of Penna. One of these, Samuel Kaufman, shafted at Keffers, now Joliett, where he found coal. He got permission to visit his parents at Minersville, where he met Charlemagne Tower, a young lawyer, of Pottsville. Kaufman told Tower if he could get enough money he should buy land in a place they called Williams Valley, for there he found some of the best coal and in enormous quantities.

This didn't mean anything to Mr. Tower then, because he was too poor. But, during the Civil War in which he was an officer, he had accumulated a small fortune and he set his mind upon this region.

It is said that in order to buy the land as cheaply as possible, he asked William Yohe, of Valley View, to do that part of the business for him Yohe was shrewd. He usually made his trips to this valley on horse back at about the time people were hav-

ing their evening meal. People invited him to have supper and feed his horse. Their conversation naturally drifted to the land question. The people invariably told him their taxes were high, times were hard, money very scarce, and then wished they could sell the mountain lands.

Mr. Yohe asked their price and said that perhaps he could get a buyer. They set a price, some as low as four dollars an acre, in order to get a little money and get rid of the taxes on the land that didn't bring them any returns.

Tower then got the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Co. to extend their roads from Tremont to Williamstown. They graded it to a place almost halfway between Brookside and Williamstown before they found that Tower didn't own the land so far west.

Tower asked a man by the name of Bickel to open a mine at Brookside. However, he opened Bickel's Colliery at Mt. Carmel. He claimed, in later years, that he lost a million dollars by not accepting Tower's offer.

Brookside Colliery is located north of Tower City and was originally operated as two distinct collieries, East Brookside known as the Tower Colliery, and the one farther west as Brookside. The Tower, or East Brookside Colliery, was originally opened by Savage, Evans, and Alt-house, in 1868, by sinking a slope. They continued to operate until 1873, when Repplier, Gordon and Co., purchased it and operated until 1875, when it was abandoned.

The Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Co. reopened it in 1892 and has been operating it in conjunction with West Brookside up to the present time.

West Brookside was originally opened by William Savage, Kaufman and Co., in 1868. They operated it until 1872, when Repplier, Gordon and Co. merged it with their Tower

Colliery, operating both collieries to 1875, when the P. & R. C. & I. Co. took possession and are operating it at the present time.

Brookside produces the best anthracite in the world cheaper than most of its competitors.

Kalmia Colliery in Tremont Twp., just across the southern boundary of the Porter Twp., was very closely related to the welfare of our people. Lincoln, Good Spring and Hazle Brook Collieries are also near the border of the Township and have been an asset to our people. The first two were operated by the Reading Co. until 1930, when they were closed.

SCHOOLS

Before the days of public schools, the settlers provided a small one room log-cabin which served for both church and school purposes. The minister of the church was often the teacher. The building was located between the present Reformed Church and Parsonage at Tower City. The land upon which the school house-church stood, about eight acres, was donated for church and school purposes by John Hand.

Later, when the free schools were adopted, three more schools, similar to the one mentioned above, were erected: one at Seibert's, one at Orwin, and one at Osterman's. These had two windows and one door each.

Tobias Bender taught at Seibert's, later at Orwin and Muir. He served as Justice of the Peace for many years. He was a fine penman and did neat work.

George Schwalm, who is known all over the county as a successful farmer, and who was in school the morning the incident occurred gave the writer the following anecdote. The teacher, Tobias Bender, didn't get to school until after 10 o'clock, having stopped at the hotel to see

some of his friends. On staggering into the school room the pupils roared with laughter. To settle the affair, only one, a big girl, escaped a sound "trouncing." He began with the biggest boy, John Fisher, and continued down the line.

Edward Fortman and Lewis Sarge also taught in these log buildings.

Jonathan Krewson, the first superintendent of schools of the county, made the following statement in his report to the State Department in 1855: "Porter Township is too poor to have good schools." Conditions changed, and today Porter Township has one of the best systems of schools in the county.

In 1868 West Brookside and East Brookside Collieries began to operate. This was also the closing year of the one-room log school-houses. In 1870 three new one-room brick buildings were opened in their stead: at Tower City, Seiberts, and Muir.

People from the surrounding districts moved in. The population increased so rapidly, that by 1871 three more school houses of the same style mentioned above were constructed; one at Orwin, one at Sheridan and one at Reinerton. The latter still stands and is now used as a community building. Former County Superintendent, Livingston Seltzer taught in it in 1888 and 1889.

Among the first teachers in these new buildings were: Henry Billick, Edward Fortman, Frank P. Henry, Philip H. Updegrove, J. B. Weidle, and Tobias Bender.

Organize High School

The two room, two story frame building, now used as the Enterprise Shirt Factory at Tower City, was the next addition. Here in 1885, with J. M. Schroepe as principal, was organized the first high school of Porter Township. It was also one of the first in the county.

One stormy winter morning in 1680 the little brick school-house at Muir was wrecked by wind, just before the teacher and pupils arrived. The term was finished in the Old Evangelical Church on the hill. The next term opened in the side room of the Keystone Hotel, of which Tobias Strowhecker was proprietor. After the Christmas vacation the school occupied a new two story, two room building, similar to the one at Tower City. Instead of erecting it on Schwalm's corner, where the former building stood, it was built on the site of the present school house. In 1884, the school was graded and two teachers employed. This building became the home of the Porter Township High School after Tower City became a borough in 1892. Since then modern school houses were erected at Good Spring, Joliett, Sheridan, Seiberts, Reinerton and Muir.

Harvey M. Richert became the first principal, in 1894, of Porter Township. For some years after the formation of Tower City as a borough, the pupils of Porter Twp. continued to get their high school education in the Tower City schools. In 1902 Porter Township began its own high school. At the first commencement of the Porter Township High School, in 1904, there were four graduates. The exercises were held in the Evangelical Church at Muir. Dr. A. C. Rothermel, principal of the Keystone State Normal School, was the speaker. There was a fearful thunderstorm that evening. Lightning struck on all sides. A stroke killed Andrew Wagner, a hoisting engineer, on his way home from work, within 100 yards from his home.

In 1909 the high school was recognized by the State Department as a third class high school. There were two teachers: the principal, Harvey M. Richert, and the assistant, A. T. Schwalm.

First Vocational High School

In 1912 A. T. Schwalm became the principal and Thos. E. Moser assistant. During the school term of 1914-15 the teachers of the township and Tower City, with the aid of County Supt. Livingston Seltzer, and his assistant, J. M. Schroepe, held a Teachers' Institute at Muir for the purpose of discussing and advocating "Better Schools, Higher Education, and Vocations in Relation to Schools." Immediately after this meeting, the board of education took steps toward the erection of a new high school building. In 1915 there was organized for Porter Township the first recognized First Class Vocational High School in Schuylkill County.

Until the new building was completed at Reinerton, in 1918, the classes in Domestic Science met in the side room above J. P. Schwalm's hardware store. Those in shop and agriculture, met in the building used by George Keilman for his bottling works.

Upon the death of A. T. Schwalm in the spring of 1924, H. H. Updegrove was elected supervising principal. In 1928 G. A. Eichler became supervising principal. J. O. Zeigler was chosen as assistant in 1929. Thomas E. Moser assumed charge of the science department. F. Thomas Beck was elected supervising principal in 1930. He was succeeded in 1934 by O. C. Kuntzleman.

In 1928 Porter became a first class high school with selective academic and vocational courses. In this high school pupils may take up the following studies: English, French, German, history, algebra, plane and solid geometry, trigonometry, chemistry, physics, biology, general science, agriculture, woodwork, domestic science, art, vocal music, band and orchestra music, typewriting, stenography, book-keeping and accounting. Athletics and extra curricular activities, to

suit the desires of most boys and girls receive special attention.

Build An Addition

In 1932 a large addition was made to the building containing a gymnasium, a large auditorium, two up-to-date, well equipped laboratories, three class rooms, offices, shower baths, lockers, etc.

The following story is told and well authenticated. On completion of so many school houses in 1871, the question arose as to how or where to get teachers. The directors consulted Supt. Jesse Newlin who said, "There is a young boy at Valley View who can handle the job if you can get him." They went to Valley View and hired the boy, Philip H. Updegrave.

Philip was a man of his word in school as well as out. He forbade snow-balling. During stormy weather the snow would drift as high as the rail fences. The day after such a storm the pupils were tempted to choose sides and play war. The bell rang earlier than usual and the time of reckoning was at hand. His majesty called the boys up front and one by one they were commanded to point to a nail in the floor, during which performance the teacher took his muscular exercises, with a paddle about two inches wide and twenty inches long, across the stretched portion of the stooping victim. Some ran howling to their seats, others took it like heroes. All the girls came next. They sat in the front row of seats with their dresses tightly stretched over the knees, where they received the same punishment, with the same paddle in the same vigorous manner.

Following is the chronological order of the teachers who taught in the one room building on Schwalm's corner: Tobias Bender, Henry Billick, Philip H. Updegrave and Henry Miller. Those who taught in the two room buildings

at Muir were: Henry Miller, J. M. Schroepe, Morris Hikes, Samuel C. Snyder, Thomas H. Herb and Harvey M. Richert, in the higher grades; and Margaret Holland, Hattie Pinkerton, Harriet Batdorf, Minnie Pinkerton, Kate Krebs, Ida M. Hepler, Emma Owens and Mary Brown in the lower grades.

After the completion of the present building at Muir, Joseph Daub and Harry Unger, (the latter is there at present) taught the upper grades. Harvey M. Rickert taught the branches of the high school. Elijah Jenkins, W. E. Updegrave, and A. T. Schwalm, taught seventh and eighth grades. Among those who taught the lower grades were Cecelia Lyons, Oliver C. Kuntzleman, Elizabeth Lehman, Veronica Long, Lottie Schwalm, Jos. Daub, Eva Daub, Lizzie Unger. This following group is not named in the order in which they taught: Margaret Long, Korine Schwalm, Phyllis Nef and Elva Brown.

The following are the present teachers: Muir: Harry Unger, Cathryn Wagner, Harry Bressler and Mary Ruch.

Reinerton: Joseph R. Daub, Elizabeth Lehman, Cecelia Lyons and Mabel Strawhecker.

Sheridan: Harvey Bressler, Theodore Unger, Gladys Workman, Mrs. Lavina Eisenacher.

Seiberts: Robert Neidlinger, Paul Updegrave.

Keffers: Glenn Lehman, Florence Berger.

Good Spring: Amos Kuntzleman, Margaret Wheatley.

Orwin: George Nelson: Jennie Houtz, Violet Yoder, Eva Romberger.

High School, Reinerton: O. C. Kuntzleman, Supervising Principal; J. O. Zeigler, Assistant Principal; D. L. Osman, Supervisor of Instrumental Music; Miss Marion K. Fore-

man, Supervisor of Public School Music; Miss Dorothy Dunbar, Supervisor of Art; T. E. Moser, Science; E. A. Keiser, Languages; D. W. Snader, Mathematics; G. E. Bendigo, English and History; R. W. Wenrich, Manual Arts; M. Christman, Domestic Science; A. Thompson, English and History; A. Johnston, Commerce.

TEACHERS

Teachers who gave outstanding service:

Frank Henry taught fifty-two consecutive years, 1870-1922, when he was retired, having reached the age limit. He is living at Sheridan, enjoying good health. He says he'll live to be one hundred, if nothing happens.

Mr. Henry, J. B. Weidner, Philip H. Updegrave and Amos R. Yoder, who taught at Kalmia, had monthly teachers' meetings back in the 70's. Since two of these men lived in Hegins Twp., the meetings were for self-improvement and were held at the homes. Mr. Henry and Mr. Weidner often walked across the mountains to these meetings, a distance of seven miles. Quite frequently it was very cold and the ground was covered with snow.

Harvey M. Richert was supervising principal of the township schools for 18 years, 1894-1912. Under him the Porter Township High School held its first commencement in 1904, after the recognition of the school by the State Department. It was recognized by the State as a third class high school in 1911.

A. T. Schwalm taught for 34 years, 1890 to 1924, in the grades 18 years, assistant supervising principal for 4 years, and supervising

principal 12 years. He died May 1, 1924.

Cecelia Lyons began teaching in 1896. She has taught in the grades ever since, with the interruption of but one term.

George Nelson began in 1900, at Orwin. He has taught in the same building every year since that time, and has been principal of that school for many years.

Harry O. Unger taught continuously since 1897, and is now principal of Muir grades.

Joseph Daub began in 1903 and has taught every term since, and is now principal at Reinerton.

Jennie Houtz began in 1911, and is now teaching fifth and sixth grades at Orwin.

Amos Kuntzleman began in 1914. He is principal at Good Spring.

Elizabeth Lehman began in 1915. She is now teaching fifth and sixth grades at Reinerton.

Harvey Bressler began 1920, and is principal at Sheridan.

J. O. Zeigler began as teacher of History, English, and Coach of football and baseball in 1923. In 1929 he became assistant supervising principal.

In 1896 Thomas E. Moser taught one term in Mahantongo Township. Since then he taught four years at Orwin, nine years at Seiberts, one year at Donaldson as principal of the high school, in which capacity he served 16 years. He is now head of the science department. He has given 23 years of service to the same high school. Mr. Moser has taught a total of thirty-eight years in the schools of Porter Township.

Miss Alice M. Clarkson was the supervisor of Home Economics for 14 years, 1917-1931.

CHURCHES

St. Peter's Lutheran & Reformed Church of Orwin

St. Peter's Lutheran and Reformed Church of Orwin, is the oldest church building standing in the Williams Valley. The major part of the present building is the original structure built in 1856-57. The cornerstone was laid in the fall of 1856, by the first Lutheran pastor, Rev. Frederick W. Waltz, as he himself states. In later years he wrote to Rev. W. F. Bond, thus:—"By building the church at Johnstown (Orwin) the people did not give up the old place at the School House (Tower City), but did so mainly for their accommodation, because the majority of the members lived in that neighborhood. They were virtually the same people that owned the old place, which was in an entirely dilapidated condition." The church was dedicated on Trinity Sunday, June 7, 1857.

This congregation was part of old "Zion's Lutheran and Reformed Church," Tower City, which dates back to the first settlers, some of whom came here as early as 1780.

The following Lutheran ministers served St. Peter's Church: Rev. F. W. Waltz, Rev. Christian Sapper, Rev. David Reed, Rev. E. S. Henry, Rev. J. N. Hemping, Rev. Augustus Bergner. Rev. L. M. Lenker was the first regular pastor, 1874-1891. The first resident pastor was Rev. Wm. F. Bond, 1891-1904. The present pastor is Rev. Ira F. Frankensfield, 1905—.

The following Reformed ministers served St. Peter's Church: Rev. Isaac Stieley, Rev. H. S. Bossler, Rev. Jos. H. Schlaeppig, Rev. Wm. H. Landis, Rev. Wm. Alspach, Rev. B. John Kretzing. The regular pastor was Rev. D. Sheirer. Then

followed Rev. L. D. Stekel, Rev. L. M. Fetterolf, Rev. Chas. H. Slinghoff, Rev. Webster S. Stover, and the present pastor, Rev. Chas. E. Heffleger.

The 50th anniversary, June, 1907, was marked by the remodeling and enlarging the building to its present size, at a cost of about \$2,000.

In 1928. St. Peter's Lutheran congregation withdrew and built its own church at Reinerton, at a cost of \$65,000.

The present membership of St. Peter's Lutheran Church is 424 baptized members, 268 confirmed members.

Joliett M. E. Church

In 1907, the congregation bought at public sale, the old discarded school house for \$175, and remodeled it for a place of worship, under the pastorate of Rev. W. K. McNeal. The roll of pastors included: Wm. May, 1909-1911; Irvin Sietz, 1911-1913; H. B. Slider, 1913-1916; Fred A. Tyson, 1916-1917; L. A. Dyer, 1917-1920; Geo. L. Schaeffer, 1920-1921; Geo. A. Laughead, 1921-1926; E. B. Harshberger, 1926-1928; C. E. Knopp, 1928-1932; Wm. H. Anderman, 1932-present time.

United Brethren Church, Orwin

The following United Brethren ministers preached in Williams Valley and Orwin, prior to the erection of the Orwin United Brethren Church in 1892: Jas. Shoop, S. V. Mohn, A. L. Shannon, Wm. Dissinger, Amos Graul, Jacob Runk, J. A. Keiper, Jacob Mark, Gotlieb Myers, R. S. Arndt.

Register of ministers since the erection of the church in 1892, during the pastorate of Rev. Clint S. Miller: Clint S. Miller, 1891-1892; U. Gambler, 1893; J. M. Walters, 1894; R. S. Arndt, 1895-96-97; Amos Graul, 1898; Clint S. Miller, 1899-1900; J. F. Smith, 1901; Wm. Beach, 1902; J. C. Pease, 1903-04-05; C. Wallace

Miller, 1906-1909; H. M. Troutman, 1910-1911; Norman I. Fake, 1912-1913; O. G. Romig, 1914-1915; G. W. Hess, 1916-1917; S. G. Haas, 1918-1920; R. E. Morgan, 1921; J. C. Deitzler, 1922-1924; J. A. Keipler, 1925-1930; Ira D. Lowery, 1931-present time.

Sheridan Methodist Church

Before Sheridan was laid out in town lots, 1869, there was a small cemetery on the north side of the road, about 500 feet west of the stone hotel, which is still standing in Sheridan.

It had twelve tomb stones in it and was enclosed with a rail fence. In later years the fence and stones were removed and the cemetery plowed over and cultivated with the rest of the field.

In 1870, a Methodist Episcopal Church was erected in Sheridan. This was removed when the denomination built a church in Tower City in 1888. Henry White was the first minister.

Church at Peter's Mountain

There was a small Evangelical log and frame church building about one mile south of Tower City at the foot of Peter's Mountain on the north side of the old Powell's Valley Road across the mountain. The grave yard is still intact.

The following incident was related by Henry Unger of Muir, still living and an eye-witness. Rev. J. Adams was a good preacher. He was also a well built husky man. On one occasion a crowd of big rowdies made unnecessary noise in the rear of the little church at Peter's Mountain. He told them to be quiet or he would put them out. One burly fellow bantered him. The preacher got him by the collar of the overcoat and threw him out with such vigor that the overcoat buttons flew in different directions.

This church was abandoned and

later sold to Reuben Berger. In 1872 the congregation built the Evangelical Church at Tower City which stood until the present brick building was erected on the same lot, in 1922.

The same denomination held church services at Muir in a small log house on the farm of Thomas Evans, now owned by Waldo Coulter. The cemetery with three graves, from which the stones have been removed, is on the same farm, about midway between the Schwalm homestead, now owned by William Tallman and Coulter's, close to the line between the two farms on land owned by George M. Schwalm. This place was first chosen for the erection of a church. Later, however, George Reiner, Sr., gave a piece of land on the hill about 200 feet south of the town of Reiner City, now Muir, where they built the old church in 1874, still standing. Rev. J. F. Wohlfarth was the first minister.

It was abandoned in 1923, when the congregation moved into the present brick church on the northeast corner of Wiconisco Avenue and First St. The work on this new building was started while Rev. Charles Eagle was pastor and completed during Rev. John Horner's pastorate. Thos. E. Moser made the plans for the building and was appointed overseer of its construction.

Evangelical Church

In 1895 this congregation of the Evangelical Association broke into two factions, one withdrawing and becoming a part of the United Evangelical Church. During the merger of these two factions in 1922, some of the United Evangelicals merged with the Association. The merged church is known as the Evangelical Church. Those of the United Evangelicals who did not merge became the Evangelical Congre-

gation Church. A part of this later broke away in 1926 and built the Holiness Tabernacle.

Following are the names of the ministers who served at Reiner City, now Muir: 1887-1890, A. Souliard; 1890-1892, H. H. Smith; 1892, Wesley Teel; 1893-1895, H. P. Walters; 1895, D. S. Manning; 1896-1898, J. E. Beam; 1899, I. F. Bergstresser; 1900-1903, D. S. Manning; 1903, H. E. Hildt; 1904, J. L. Boyer; 1905-1907, C. C. Hoffman; 1907-1910, D. A. Brown; 1910, L. A. Werner; 1911, H. E. Wildt; 1912-1917, L. H. Yergey; 1917-1924, C. H. Eagle; 1924, W. F. Savidge; 1925-1929, W. F. Savidge; 1930, C. T. Arner; 1931-1933, W. E. Sinclair.

Evangelical Ministers at Porter Township: 1870, J. A. Adams, at Peter's Mt. and Muir; 1871, A. A. DeLong, at Peter's Mt. and Muir; 1872-1873, W. A. Shoemaker; 1874-1876, J. F. Wohlfarth; 1877, L. W. Worman; 1878-1879, I. S. Newhart; 1880-1881, H. F. Glick; 1882-1883, T. Hoffman; 1884, A. M. Sampsel and J. Overholser; 1885-1886, W. W. Yost.

The Catholic Church at Joliett, "Our Lady of the Snow," was erected during the big coal strike in 1902; Rev. Francis M. Ward was the first Priest.

Roster of Priests: Rev. J. Burke; Rev. Dennis J. Melley; Rev. J. M. Coleman; Rev. David Leahy was the first resident pastor and built the first parsonage in 1922; Rev. Thos. Brady; Rev. Francis M. Fox, Rev. Walter Austin; Rev. M. J. Coleman.

ORGANIZATIONS

Fraternal and other organizations, and date of establishment. All are still functioning.

At Muir

The Patriotic Order Sons of America, Sept. 17, 1879; The Knights of Pythias, Jan. 5, 1886; The Daughters of America, Sept. 26, 1905; The

Pythian Sisters, Aug. 21, 1928; The Junior Order United American Mechanics, July 16, 1890.

At Orwin

The Orwin Gun Club; The Orwin Fire Company, 1923.

At Sheridan

The Sheridan Gun Club, 1900; The Sheridan Fire Company, 1931.

At Reinerton

The Improved Order of Red Men, Feb. 21, 1900; The Pocahontas, June 12, 1903; The United Mine Workers of America, Oct. 22, 1900; The State Haymaker's Association, June 24, 1915; The Reinerton Fire Company, 1931; The Reinerton Educational Association, July 18, 1899.

PIONEERS IN TOWNSHIP

The pioneer men and families that helped to make history in Porter Township were as follows:

Philip Kuntzleman

About the year 1746, Philip Kuntzleman, a German by birth, emigrated to America, and settled at Lickdale. After residing there many years, he sold his farm to Mr. Weidman, and moved his family, which consisted of wife and two sons. John and Henry, to Pine Valley, (Hegins Valley) where he purchased a large tract of land. A large portion of his land is now owned by William and Aaron Artz. A few years later he left this tract of land to his son, while he and his son Henry, moved to Lykens Valley.

John Kuntzleman

John Kuntzleman was one of the early pioneers in the Hegins Valley. He spent his whole life there. He is buried in the Lutheran and Reformed Cemetery at Hegins, where his wife's tombstone, bearing her name, Margaret, and the dates, 1775-1859 can be seen.

After his death the land passed to his sons, Jonathan and Michael. Several years later they disposed of this land and Jonathan moved to the Williams Valley, on a farm one-half mile south of Orwin, which is now owned by Harvey Romberger. His brother, Michael, located in Egan, Ill.

Jonathan and his wife, Eliza Henninger, had 13 children, five of which died in early youth, and eight of them grew to maturity. They were as follows: Mrs. Daniel Shadle, who had eight children; Mrs. Nathan Bohr, who had ten; Mrs. Thomas Miller, who had eight; Mrs. William Adams, who had nine; Mrs. Solomon Schoffstall, who have five; Amos Kuntzleman, who had seven, and Mrs. Washington Krebs, who had five.

Thomas Kuntzleman

Thomas Kuntzleman's children are: Harry, who teaches in a New York City College; Oliver, principal of Porter Township schools; Estella and Hattie taught in the grades; Anna is a graduate nurse; Walter is at the Seminary studying for the ministry; Richard and Grace are at college.

John Kuntzleman

John Kuntzleman's children are: Amos and Roy, who are teachers, and Beulah, who was a teacher before marriage.

Geo. Kuntzleman's children are: Henry, who taught school, and Earl, who is a clerk for the government.

Harry Kuntzleman's children are: Ruth, Stewart, Arlene and Bennett.

Katie (Kuntzleman) Rishe's children are: Henry, Susan and Reuben.

Emma (Kuntzleman) Hand has one son, Isaac, who teaches near Pittsburgh.

Christ Nelson Family

Christ Nelson (Neilsun) was born in Souderburg Island, Denmark,

July 22, 1849. He came across when he was 16 years old, on the ship Sexonia, and landed at New York, May, 1867. He went to Pinegrove, later to Chambersburg, Franklin Co., and worked at Franklin furnace for two years. He then returned to Pinegrove, where he lived for five years. Here he learned the carpenter trade. He settled in Williams Valley in 1873, and built a home in Orwin in 1875. Later he moved to Suedburg, and was proprietor of a hotel. From there he moved to Stephen's Hotel, Tower City. He then built the property called Park Hotel in 1880, and occupied it for a few years. In 1889, he moved to what is called Johnstown House, at Orwin. In 1891 moved on a farm east of Reiner City. In 1900 he moved into the Johnstown House in Orwin. In 1906 he built the home at Reinerton, where he now resides.

His children are as follows:

William, a coal miner, at Muir; Kate, married to Joseph Hoffman, at Pottsville; John, an engineer, at Williston, N. D.; Geo., a school teacher at Muir; Mamie Berger, business, at Tower City; Lord Bendigo, at Orwin; Minnie Behney, at Reinerton; Emma Behney, at Reinerton; Charles Nelson, business, at Reinerton.

Schwalm Family

John and his wife, Tillie, Schwalm, came from Germany, and settled in what is now Hubley Twp., Schuylkill Co. They had one child, Frederick. Both he and his parents were farmers. He was affiliated with the Reformed Church. Frederick was married three times. By his first wife, Catherine (Stein), he had thirteen children. Among them, Wm., Emanuel; Daniel, Peter, Catherine and Louise reached a ripe old age.

These were all prominent citizens in their respective communities. His second wife, Sarah (Sufing) died, leaving no children. A third, Harriet (Dieter) left Otilia, Elizabeth and Jackson. All the children are now deceased.

Peter, son of Frederick, who was born Aug. 21, 1836, in what is now Hubley Twp., then Lower Mahantongo, married Maria Schroepe. He worked on his brother Samuel's farm, while he served in the Civil War. He moved to Porter Twp., Jan. 28, 1867, where he bought a tract of 129 acres of land. Part of this he laid out in lots known as the Schwalm addition to Muir. This land was very wild and overgrown by trees and underbrush. Mr. Schwalm caught 30 foxes during the first years. He improved the place, and lived on it until 1895, when he built a new home in Muir, where he lived until his death, July 25, 1908.

Following are his children and grandchildren: Ellsworth, who wed Jane Kessler, and was a prosperous farmer at Valley View. He owned and operated the Wm. Yohe farm. He had six children: Elmer, Lloyd, Ralph, Ruth, Effie and Beulah.

Elizabeth married Albert Hand, and had one son, Ira, who runs a service station.

George married Agnes Haetter, and had four children: Lottie, Lilian, Korine and Elma, of whom the first three were school teachers. George operated the old homestead for many years, and now lives retired.

Albert married Sevilla Bressler; no children.

Wm. married Annie Bixler, and lives in Midland, S. D., where he is the head of a cooperative establishment. His children are: Ira, Ray, Merle, Dorothy, Arthur, Ben and Fred.

Mary married Thos. E. Moser. They have seven children: Irma, Clair, Ruth Janet, all of whom were teachers; Paul and Lyle, doctors, and Glenn at home.

John P. married Kate Lebo and had Harold, Beatrice, Mark and Ben.

Besides these there are some great-grandchildren.

The Schwalm family is known for its sincerity, integrity, industry and progressiveness.

Peter Schwalm served as assessor, school director and treasurer of the township.

Kessler Family

Abraham and Catherine (Binger) Kessler, natives of Berks Co., (Bendall Twp.) came to Pine Valley in the early part of the 18th century. In the year 1825 they purchased a tract of land containing about seventy-five acres of land in Williams Valley, which he continued to cultivate and improve until the time of his death in 1887. The business of farming engaged his attention during the greater part of his life. He manufactured blasting powder for use in the mines for about six years.

He was a Democrat, and as such held the office of school director and supervisor. He was affiliated with the Reformed Church.

Nine children were born to this couple. Growing to maturity were: John, who went to Clearfield Co.; Colomon, who moved to Harrisburg; Paul, who conducted a small store in the village then known as Johnstown, and leaves as descendants: Charles Kessler, of Clarks Valley, a prominent dairy and feed man, and Annie, wife of Harry Bendigo, of Orwin, a prominent merchant; Kate, who married Henry Reedy, was engaged for many years in carpet weaving; Polly, who married Mr. Sauerbear, and migrated

to Kansas; Kitty, wife of Joseph Hand, Sr., who was a prosperous farmer; Lydia, wife of Simon Rowe, a miner, and Peter, who became a prosperous farmer on the old homestead, was born Sept. 28, 1831. Peter received a somewhat meagre education in the common schools of the township. The greater part of his education was obtained by experience. In youth he learned the carpenter trade. He improved and added to his possessions until he owned a farm of two hundred and thirty acres. He also built a number of tenant houses at Johnstown. Politically he was a Republican. He served as school director for many years. He also served a term as tax collector. Peter was united in marriage to Catherine Zerby, of Hegins Twp., who bore him six children. John H. married Selesia Boar, spent most of his life on the tract of land purchased by his father from Abe Carl. This tract became his property at his father's death. He leaves to survive: Gertie, wife of Ed Thompson, of Tower City; John, Jr., now deceased, and Annie and Lottie.

Henry A. married Emma Eliza Bultz, and lived on the tract of land his father purchased from Wm. Hechler and Mrs. Mausser. At his father's death, this became his own. He has followed the occupation of farming generally. Four of his children grew to maturity: Lily, wife of Maurice Snyder; Bessie, wife of D. Lyle Frye, now occupying the old homestead; Sherman, a farmer at Homestown, and Edgar.

Andrew J. married Sallie Newhardt, and on the death of his father moved to the old homestead, which became his property. Following are his children: Boyd, married to Irma Bettinger; Lynn, Sadie,

Roy, Datie, Daniel and David.

Sallie is married to Wm. Wise, who operates a coal yard at Harrisburg. Their children are: Claude, Clinton, Clarence, Mabel, Mrs. Chas. Nelson, Mrs. Harvey Stibits, Bertha and Verna.

Mary E. married Otto Zimmerman, who was a teacher, but later took up farming. He purchased the old homestead from his brother-in-law, where he raised his family. When his family had grown to maturity, they took up different occupations. Lacking help, he sold the old Kessler homestead to Walter Brown. The family consisted of: Lulu, wife of Chas. Kiehl; Hillary, miner; Ada, wife of Curtis Ney, Tremont; Florence, wife of Postmaster E. F. Workman; Dorothy, wife of John Profera, Millville, N. J.; Mary, wife of Earl Beard, Tremont; David, at Orwin, with parents, who are now operating a small farm.

Kimmel Family

Samuel Kimmel, born 1795 and died 1851, rebuilt the Mountain Tavern, the first dwelling at Joliett, in 1841. He operated the tavern for one year, when it was taken over by his oldest son, Jacob. In 1842 he built the Log Cabin in Boone's Swamp, which stood till 1907. The old stone fire place, which was built by Daniel Carl, a brother-in-law of Samuel Kimmel, stood as a monument until it was covered by the rock bank of the West Wood Colliery.

While living here he bought a tract of coal land in Kohler's Gap. A small drift was opened in one of the veins. He could get no one at home to try the coal, so was obliged to haul it to Reading, where it was tried on a black-smith forge. They marveled at the superior fire it produced.

Joe Kimmel, son of Samuel Kimmel, was born in Pottsville, 1837. He lived at Keffers and surrounding towns until the time of his death in 1913. He and Simon Fisher were the contractors who sank Osterman's slope in 1870.

The first home in Keffers was built in 1860. It was occupied by Henry Fisher, married to Catherine Kimmel, and a daughter of Samuel Kimmel. This house was built in one day although they had to hang blankets and carpets over the doorways and windows the first night. Nevertheless they had possession of the Keffers tract of land.

In 1844 Samuel Kimmel migrated with three wagons to Wanwert Co., Ohio, which was vacated sixteen years before by the Indians. Joe Kimmel often related the story of two Indians who visited the old tavern when he was a young boy. They were on their way to the west. He said they took the Indian Trail which followed Rausch Creek thru Kohler's Gap and Sunbury.

Alspach and Unger Families

William Alspach came to Williams Valley in 1868, and, on March 31 of that year, he purchased the farm which is now owned by Wayne Heberling. William Alspach was elected a supervisor of Porter Township for the year 1869. He was one of the builders of the Evangelical Church at Muir and was also a local preacher during this time. Simon Unger, who was married to Marie Alspach, daughter of William Alspach, lived at Rausch Creek, but obtained work at Kalmia Colliery. On June 28, 1873, he purchased from Henry Stine the property which has been in the possession of the Unger family ever since that date. Simon Unger had a family of 12 children. They are as follows: Charles, Henry W., Jacob M., Mary, Elizabeth (Bressler), Samuel, Edwin, George and Albert A. All of

these are living with the exception of Charles and Samuel.

Maria Unger died on Nov. 3, 1900 at the age of 63 years. Simon Unger died in 1915, at the age of 85 years.

The Unger family has always been interested in civic affairs. Simon Unger served as a supervisor of Porter Township. Charles was a school director. Henry W. served as tax collector, school director, and supervisor.

Albert A. Unger, after graduating from the Porter Twp. schools clerked in his brother's store. Later he worked in the mines and became a fireboss at East Brookside. He qualified as a mine foreman, receiving the first mine foreman certificate granted to anyone from Reiner City.

He served 7 years as transcribing clerk in the recorder's office; 8 years as first deputy in the same office; 6 years as deputy controller and for the past three years has been employed as county librarian and court crier.

He served as a justice of the peace in Porter Township since 1907, succeeding the late Andrew Brown.

Esaias Brown

Esaias Brown, one of the early settlers of Orwin, was the son of William Brown, brother of Jacob Brown of Muir. He came to Orwin soon after the Civil War, in which he served. He served as postmaster. He built the house in which Harry Evans now lives and carried on mercantile business for a number of years.

Evans Family

I. M. Evans was born in Minersville, and came to this valley in 1868. He was employed to sink the first slope at East Brookside. He worked in the mines until 1877, when he moved to Reiner City, now Muir, and opened a small grocery store, which business he carried on until 1887, when he retired,

and the business was taken over by his two sons, Robert Roland and Isaac Albert. Mr. Evans was the first postmaster at Muir.

Houtz Family

Jacob Houtz was born 1820 in Porter Township, then part of Lower Mahantongo Twp. He had two brothers: Wendall and Johnathan; two sisters, Mrs. Edward Hand and Mrs. Daniel Adams. In his early life he was a farmer, later turning to carpentering and coffin making; he also made shingles and drawing knives. He helped to build many houses in Coaldale, a small settlement south of Lykens. He was the father of nine children.

Israel Houtz, son of Jacob Houtz, was born 1861 in the western part of Porter Township. He was a teamster and farmer. His wife, Deany, was born in Dauphin Co., 1864, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Zimmerman.

The Reiner Family

John Reiner lived in the Mahantongo Valley as a farmer. He later went to Clearfield County, Pa., where he died. His children were: Jacob and George (twins), John and Esther.

George was born in the Mahantongo Valley, lived for a time in the Hegins Valley, and in 1854 settled in Porter Twp. Here, on March 30, 1854, he bought 159 acres of land from Daniel Bohner. This was part of a larger tract surveyed on warrant to John Coxe, April 26, 1774, and patented to Daniel Williams, Aug. 17, 1774, and of another tract surveyed on warrant to John Miffilin, May 21, 1787, and patented to Jacob Heberling, Jan. 12, 1852. He moved upon this farm and in 1869 had part of it surveyed and laid out in town lots. This part, together with the part laid out by Peter Schwalm, became Reiner City, now Muir.

George was a prominent citizen. He served as tax collector, super-

visor and treasurer of the township. He died at the age of 63. His wife, Elize, died at the age of 70. Following are the children: John, Christinia, Lydia, Henry, George and Elizabeth.

John, with his wife Hannah (Stutzman), had: Elizabeth, John, Emily, Lottie, and Leroy. Lydia and her husband, Henry Unger, had: William, Herbert, Frank and Harry. Christinia and her husband, John Schneider, had no children. Henry and wife Elizabeth (Hoffman) had: Charles, Frank, George, Lloyd, Raymond, Lottie, Della, Howard, Annie and Eva.

George and wife Annie (Sponsler) had: Lottie, Ralph, Robert, Clarence, Harry, George, Gladys and Alva. Elizabeth and husband Geo. Evans, had: Harry, Charles, and George.

Heberling Family

Henry Heberling came from the Mahantongo Valley and settled at Orwin. He bought a large tract of land south of the town, and lived in a log house on the farm now belonging to Theodore Updegrave. Here his son, Michael, later built the present brick house.

Following an old Pennsylvania German custom, Henry willed each of his children, as far as possible, a tract of land, often the division of the old homestead. Philip, received the farm now belonging to Henry Kessler; John, the one owned by Otto Zimmerman; Michael, the one where Theodore Updegrave now lives; Powell got a small tract of farm land, some timberland, and a saw mill near Kalmia; Israel got a piece on the north side of the road running through Orwin now sold as building lots in the portion called Snydertown; Mrs. Simon Stutzman got a small tract east of this; Mrs. Joseph Reed, Mrs. Jacob Brown, Susan and Rebecca received their share of the inheritance in money.

Of this large family, Philip and Michael moved to Nebraska. The others remained here. Many of the numerous descendants of the Heberling family are living in this community. George Heberling of Orwin, and Mrs. Alice Shadle, of Muir, are the oldest survivors.

Bendigo Family

The Bendigo family came to the Williams Valley from the Deep Creek Valley and were among the first settlers of Porter Township. There were no towns or stores in the valley at that time, and when in need of supplies they traveled to the nearest store, either at Lykens or Tremont, both ten miles. John Bendigo lived in Clark's Valley as a farmer and later as a miner. Solomon Bendigo also had a farm in Clark's Valley, but also carried on a rather profitable business in supplying a tannery at Lykens with bark. Adam, son of "Sol" Bendigo was interested in the hotel business. He built the one now owned by John Kasputis, at Reinerton, and the one now owned by Harry Donton, at Orwin. Adam and his brother Isaac owned a large farm at Orwin. Part of it is now owned by the Orwin Park Association and Twin Club.

John Hand

John Hand, the ancestor of the large Hand family now living in Porter Township, held high position as a pioneer father of the valley. He fully realized the value of education and religion in moulding a community. He donated eight acres of land for church and school purposes. Upon this land was erected a log church and school house mentioned previously in the history of education. The building was razed in 1878. Upon this parcel of ground, known as the church and school square at Tower City, are located the Lutheran Church and Parsonage, the Reformed Church and Par-

sonage, The Methodist Church, the Tower City Grade School Building, the Tower City High School Building, and the Tower City Cemetery.

Location Of Pioneer Families

Henry Sponsler built the possession house long occupied by August Spatzer, now by George Attley, at the foot of the mountain southeast of Muir.

George Holloway lived in a log house near A. A. Unger's cabin. Sometime later he built a stone house about one hundred yards to the west. This house had since been destroyed.

Daniel Miller lived on the south side of the street in a log house. George Miller lived in a log house almost on top of the hill to the east of the stone house of Mr. Holloway. East of this was Jacob Kimmel and across the street from this Jonathan (Uni) Miller and John Deiter. The latter two places now belong to Walter Updegrave, Sr. Still farther east was Jacob Miller on the place owned by Elmer Herb. Across the street to the north was Jonathan Updegrave. At his place they made crockery.

Jacob Kimmel had the hotel to Pumpkin Hill east of Muir. It stood where John Batdorf now lives. Jacob Heberling, a brother of Henry Heberling, lived in a log house afterward used for church services on the Waldo Coulter farm. Part of the foundation is still there. This place belonged to Thomas Evans for many years.

In a place called Rausland, about a mile south of Pumpkin Hill, were: Peter Miller, Jonathan Sponsier. Powell Miller, and Washington Wagner. East of the Coulter farm was Peter Schwalm. This place was sold to his son George, who gave it to his son-in-law, William Tallman.

Next was George Reiner, Sr. His farm fell into the hands of his son John, who left it to his children,

the present owners. Then comes Abraham Adams's place, now belonging to Hillary Zimmerman. Peter Miller owned the farm afterward sold to Cyrus Rowe, then to R. W. Daub. John Deitrich had the farm next to Cyrus Rowe, which extended to Orwin on the south and to Frank Bendigo's on the west.

Frank Bendigo's place belonged to Jacob Heiter, later to John Powell. To Abraham Hand belonged the farm later owned by Gebhart Long, now by Andrew Scavage. John Houtz had the place now belonging to Mrs. Wilson Dinger. John Brown owned the land from this place to and including Green Wood Cemetery. Next was Solomon Bendigo's place, now owned by Mr. Sodish. South of this were Jacob, Benjamin, and Kate Workman, none of whom were married. West of the Workmans was the Daniel Adams tract, later owned by his son, William.

John Deiter owned a large farm to the south of Adams's. He sold it to Jonathan Kuntzleman and he sold it to Nathan Bohr. Nathan later sold it to his son Henry, now living on it. Deiter moved to Orwin, which was first called Johns-

town, after him, as stated in the history of Orwin.

Jonathan Kuntzleman then bought the farm now belonging to Harvey Romberger. John Hand had the places now owned by David Hand, Mr. Schaffner, Mrs. Joseph Hand and Mr. Kissinger. Farther east was Powell Heberling's tract. To the north was a tract owned by each of the following in turn: Jacob Schwab, Cyrus Snyder, Mr. Alspach, Abraham Carl Walters, Peter Kessler, John Kessler, Walter Brown, and now Wayne Heberling.

Daniel Schucker had the first post office on the farm later owned by Henry Rowe, now by George Kline. John Mathias had a tannery on the place now belonging to Reuben Neidlinger. John Shadle had a blacksmith shop where Mrs. Cooper lives. Reuben Berger had the farm on the next corner. It belongs to Isaac Adams. The place adjoining this to the east belonged to Simon Deitrich. It belongs to Moses Bush at present. Christian Seibert had the place now owned by Henry Adams, and Jonathan Houtz the farm now belonging to George Miller.

History of Tower City Borough

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* December 19-25, 1934)

Compiled by Class of 1935 Tower City High School, Supervised by E. S. Noll,
Teacher of Social Studies

The town of Tower City takes its name from its founder, Charlemagne Tower. It is a coal-mining town, located at the extreme western portion of Schuylkill County on U. S. Route No. 209, 23 miles west of Pottsville and 42 miles northeast of Harrisburg.

Charlemagne Tower, the son of Reuben Tower, was born in Oneida County, New York, in 1809. He received his early education in his native place, afterwards attending Clinton and Utica Academies in New York State, Harvard University, and the law school at Albany, N. Y. He was admitted to the New York State bar, and began his practice, first, in New York City and then in Waterville, N. Y.

In 1846 the firm of Munson and Williams, finding the title to their land in Schuylkill County in dispute, sent Mr. Tower to Schuylkill County to defend their interests. Mr. Tower located at Orwigsburg, the county seat at that time. In 1847 he married Miss Bartle, of Orwigsburg, by whom he had one son and six daughters. His son, Charlemagne, Jr., later became Ambassador to Austria, Russia and Germany. In 1850 Mr. Tower moved to Pottsville and remained there until 1875. During the twenty-five years that he lived in Pottsville he devoted his time to settlement of dis-

puted titles of coal land, and in 1868 became the owner of that part of the Williams Valley on which Tower City is located.

About 1852 a geological survey was made through this section of the state. A young man by the name of Samuel Kaufman, Minersville, was a member of the engineer corps of the party. In the history of Porter Township the story of the purchase of coal lands by Wm. Yohe of Valley View has been related.

It was largely through Mr. Tower's influence that the railroad was built and the mines developed. After purchasing the land he decided to build a town and name it Tower City. In order to control the territory on which the town was to be located he purchased the John Dietrich farm on which Orwin, then called Johnstown was located. He also purchased all the land from Bearmont (Reinerton) to the Sulphur Creek, the dividing line between Sheridan and the borough, with the exception of the Henry Rowe farm at Reinerton.

Mr. Tower's idea was to have the main part of the town where Reinerton is now located. The cellar was dug and all arrangements were made for a large building, or hotel, to be erected on the vacant lot owned by John Mease and be known as the Tower City House. A mis-

understanding arose between Mr. Tower's representative and Mr. Rowe. In view of this misunderstanding Mr. Rowe refused to sell his farm to Mr. Tower. In order not to give Mr. Rowe the benefits of his improvements, Mr. Tower ordered the abandoning of the building at the above mentioned place and decided to locate the Tower City House a mile west of that point, where the building is now located and which placed the town in that section of the valley. This place was then a swamp and perhaps one of the most undesirable places in the valley for such an undertaking.

Early Settlement and History

Tower City was laid out in town lots in 1868 by Preston Miller, a surveyor for Charlemagne Tower, the owner of the land. This land was then a part of Porter Township. The first building erected in Tower City was a store and dwelling built for a man by the name of Marks, and is at present the building Attorney Jos. Seesholtz purchased from his father, Geo. Seesholtz, and remodeled for a home for himself and family. Mr. Marks operated the store for a few years and then sold out to Snyder and Bischoff, who conducted the business for a short while and then sold out to Grim and Wommer. They in turn sold out to A. B. Evans, who conducted the business until his death in 1882. William Elliott then purchased the building, and after the death of Mr. Elliott and his wife, the property was purchased by Geo. Seesholtz.

The second house built in Tower City was built shortly after the Marks building, and is at present the house that adjoins the present store building of Geo. Seesholtz and was occupied by Elias Kauffman, who was at that time outside foreman at West Brookside Colliery

It was owned by the Savage Brothers and Kauffman Co. At that time the only two other buildings in Tower City between the west end of town and Bearmont, now known as Reinerton, was an old log building standing where the present high school building now stands. This building was occupied by the Henry Neidlinger family. Mr. Neidlinger was a stone mason and built most of the cellar walls for the houses at that time. There was also an old log farm house standing in back of the present Catholic Church building.

About 1870 the Tower City House was built by the owner of the town, Charlemagne Tower. It was to be a hotel and a store building. The hotel was run by Benj. Smith, and the store by a Mr. Bossler. At about the same time that the Tower City House was built Jonathan Machamer, a butcher by occupation, erected a building at the corner of Fifth Street and Grand Avenue. This building he used as a dwelling, hotel and boarding house. Shortly thereafter the I. O. of O. F. erected the brick building directly opposite the Tower City House. The first floor was used as a store room, the second as a social room and dance hall, and the third as a lodge hall. The store was conducted by Chas. Sherman and Co. Shortly after this lodge hall was erected the Henry Schultz family, consisting of father, mother, and three sons, Charles, Samuel and John, located in Tower City. The father and sons all being carpenters erected their own home at the corner of Sixth Street and Grand Avenue. It is at present occupied by Mrs. W. A. Hawk, widow of Dr. W. A. Hawk. Mr. Shultz also built a store on the lots where the present National Bank building now stands, and this building was operated as a hardware store and tinsmith shop by his son Samuel. Charles Shultz built

the home now occupied by Jacob Soliday as his own home, and John Shultz the home now occupied by Lee Yoder as his home.

During this early period the J. P. Hoffman family moved to Tower City and had their home built by the Shultz boys. It is the building now owned by the Kuebler estate. Mr. Hoffman was a blacksmith by trade, and conducted a business where the Allen Buffington building now stands. For many years he was the agent and collector for the W. B. Life Insurance Co. of Lebanon.

Also coming to Tower City in the eighteen seventies were the Peter Grakelow and David Schwenk families. They came from Sch. Haven. Mr. Grakelow erected a building on Grand Avenue, now occupied by Joseph White, a local painter and paper hanger, and conducted a candy and tobacco store and also a boarding house. The David Schwenk family occupied one side of a double dwelling erected by a man named Kalbauch from Pine Grove. The other side was occupied by David Schwenk's brother Samuel, who was later killed at West Brookside Colliery. This building at present stands on Grand Ave. opposite the Albert Stephens building, and is owned by Wm. Hoffman.

One of the most influential men in moulding the infant community of Tower City was Wm. Henry, a very active and intelligent man, who came into this region from Pottsville in 1869. He married Elizabeth Thompson, niece of Alex Thompson, builder of Sheridan. He was a carpenter by trade, and served his community in many ways. He was a school director in 1874 when the school houses were built, and he also served as Justice of the Peace for twenty years.

Other early settlers of Tower City were Preston Miller, the surveyor, who built and occupied the home now occupied by Miss Ella Berney, a school teacher in the Tower City public schools. Isaac Kembball, a school teacher built and occupied the dwelling now owned and occupied by C. M. Kauffman.

Jonathan Messner and family were also among the early settlers, Mr. Messner having built a number of homes on Grand Ave., between Second and Third Sts. One is at present the Edw. Schreiner dwelling; another was torn down to make room for the present Bressler building. Another was remodeled, and is now owned by Wm. Smith, and the other is a double dwelling, at present owned by J. B. Watkins, where a restaurant is being conducted in the basement. Mr. Messner, with the assistance of his sons, erected all of the homes on the south side of Colliery Ave., between Third and Fourth Sts., and three others west of Third St. Mr. Messner also had the contract to build the state road that was constructed between Reiner City and Keffers. While this road was under construction, Mr. Messner erected a large boarding shanty for his workmen, and his two daughters, Ellen and Emma, acted as cooks. Another early settler was Levi Kauffman, who erected the building now owned and occupied by John Keisling as a dwelling and store. Geo. A. Brocious, a carpenter, erected the building on Grand Ave., opposite the Brown Bakery, now owned by the Tower City National Bank, and used as a double dwelling. He also erected the next building west of this one on Grand Ave., where he and his family lived.

On Colliery Ave. Mr. Brocious also erected several houses, and three more on Grand Ave., west of the present Carrol gasoline station. One of these is now owned and occupied by the Updegrave sisters, another by Wm. Kniley, and the other has been enlarged, and is owned and occupied by Riley Lubold. Mr. Brocious was a very resourceful man, and it is often related that if he could accumulate several pieces of two-by-four lumber and a few boards, and several pounds of nails he would immediately start to build another house, and was always able to finish it.

Levi Fehler, one of the earliest settlers, built and occupied a house on the southeast corner of Grand Ave., at Ninth St., which is now the property of Leo Trautman. Fehler was the land agent for P. W. Sheaffer, who had considerable holdings in Porter Twp. Another early settler, John Ludwig, erected his home on Grand Ave., between Ninth and Tenth Sts., at present owned by the Wm. Martz estate. Ludwig was a brick maker, and started a brick yard on the south side of Wiconisco Ave., between Fifth and Sixth Sts., but it was not a success, since the clay was of a very poor quality. J. B. Mattis, grandfather of Merchant John Reinhart, erected and operated a tannery south of Wiconisco Ave., between Eighth and Ninth Sts. He built his home, a brick dwelling, west of the present store and dwelling of Merchant Reinhart, where he and his wife lived until they died some years ago.

OLD TRAILS

Fehler Trail

One of the first trails known was the Fehler Trail, used as a means for transportating wheat to a mill

in the vicinity of Valley View Gap. This trail started in the southwestern portion of Tower City, and ran along side the spring, and the home of John Reinhart. From there it wound its course past the present site of East Brookside Colliery, and continued on to Valley View Gap. Many Indian relics have been found along this trail, which proves that it was traveled by them.

Old Greenland Trail

Another road of travel in this vicinity was known as the Old Greenland Trail. At that time there was a hotel located on top of Peters Mountain, where this trail had its starting point. It ran into the lower portion of Tower City, and extended past the old Kalmia Colliery, and terminated at the Methodist Church at Keffer's.

Powell's Valley Road

When Tower City was still in its infancy, a road which helped greatly to influence its progress was known as the Powell's Valley Road. Like the Greenland trail, it also had its beginning on the summit of Peters Mountain. It wound down into the valley, took its course along the present Wiconisco Ave., crossed Grand Ave., and passed back of the home of J. B. Watkins in an easterly direction toward Pottsville. About 1870 to 1875, lumbering in this section was carried on chiefly over this route.

Lykens Valley Trail

The Lykens Valley Trail started from the Susquehanna River, and came up through the Lykens Valley, and connected with this valley at the county line. It ran eastward through Sheridan to the Sulphur Creek, between Tower City and Sheridan. It then ran back of the Kaufman Hotel, continuing on

between the alley and Wisconisco Ave., through Tower City to Reiner-ton, then past the Kasputis Hotel, through Muir and on to Joliett.

Grand Avenue

Grand Avenue was established in 1868 when Mr. Charlemagne Tower laid out the town of Tower City. It started at the Sulphur Creek, running eastward in a straight line to Bearmont, now known as Reiner-ton.

While the road was being constructed the town had a great many depressions due to the scarcity of materials. The part of Grand Ave between the Tower City National Bank and the P. M. Klinger store was filled in with the finest kind of timber and was called the Corduroy bridge. Later stone and dirt was put on top of the timber to make it more durable. For a great many years the timber rotted and required filling until a solid foundation was formed. Stone from the mountain was then filled into this road bed, and had to be crushed by man power, which was a very slow process. Finally, however, a fairly good grade was formed on this road. A few years ago the state highway department took over this road as a state highway and the full length was concreted. The state paid for concreting for only eighteen feet of the forty-four foot road. The remainder was paid by the borough and property owner. It is now pronounced by many as one of the finest pieces of concrete road that can be found in any town in Pennsylvania.

Organization of Borough

From the time Tower City was laid out in 1868 to 1893 it was not a borough, but a part of Porter Twp. In 1892 one hundred and forty-four

dissatisfied citizens of Porter Twp. sought to form a borough to be known as Tower City. The town was to extend from the Sulphur Creek eastward for about one and a quarter miles. Also from the Williams Valley railroad southward to the Wiconisco Creek. These dissatisfied citizens met in the barber shop of G. W. Henry and a movement to incorporate the borough was made. A petition was drawn up and presented to the Schuylkill County Courts on Sept. 9, 1892, and approved by the Grand Jury on Dec. 19, 1892. The court decreed that Tower City be incorporated into a borough under the name of Tower City Borough, and also authorized Walter J. Henry to hold an election in the public school building on the third Tuesday in February, 1893, between the hours of seven o'clock A. M. and seven o'clock P. M. Petition was recorded Jan. 6, 1893.

The signers of the petition were: B. F. Stuck, W. Shade, E. F. Philips. R. Elliott, E. J. English, I. C. Umholtz, W. Trautman, G. Henry, Harp. Bressler, C. M. Rickert, E. Gamber, Mrs. Wm. Elliott, J. Fleming, Amanda Neyer, A. F. Ossman, J. G. Kopp, Sr., O. Travitz, J. Carl, W. F. Knecht, J. Zerbe, C. H. Long,, Annie Moore, B. Richert, and J. Kuntzman.

The first elections in Tower City were held on the third Tuesday in February, 1893, in the public school building.

The first officers elected were: Chief Burgess, Robert W. Heintzman; Constable, Daniel Stine; Supervisor, C. J. Shoemaker; Attorney W. J. Whitehouse; Justice of Peace, W. J. Henry; Council: A. H. Reed. Isaac Patrick, William Elliott, Dr. E. M. Philips, A. H. Bachman, Wm. Shadle.

INDUSTRY

Mining

Although the coal fever broke out in the anthracite region between 1820 and 1830 the Brookside Mines were not developed until 1867 after Charlemagne Tower came into possession of the land. Mr. Tower promised to develop these mines if the Philadelphia and Reading Co. would extend their railroad to Brookside and Pine Grove. This was readily agreed upon. Mr. Tower then succeeded in persuading Benj. Kaufman of Wiconisco, who was then paymaster at the Wiconisco Colliery and in the mercantile business, to open this property for mining purposes. Mr. Kaufman took charge of the business part of organization and enlisted the aid of Colonel Savage, who was in the foundry business at Lykens, and James Savage, a practical miner. They were known as Savage Brothers and Kaufman.

The Savage Brothers and Kaufman Co. opened up what is known as number 1 slope, now known as West Brookside. The slope was sunk to quite a depth, when it was decided to drive a gangway east and west. Unfortunately, they ran into what is known as a "fault" in coal measures. The operators were very much discouraged and as a result practically left the people upon their own resources.

Elias Kaufman, who had built the first breaker, then took up the project. He continued the opening of the gangway westward with the view of driving through the "fault." After several weeks effort the workmen succeeded in striking what was afterwards found to be a quality of coal, not exceeded anywhere in the world, known as the "Lykens Valley Red Ash." After the operators learned of the success of Mr. Kaufman they immediately returned and assumed the responsibility for the

further development of this property.

Savage Brothers and Kaufman established a very fine trade thruout Philadelphia and vicinity for their product.

The corporation that controlled the route of delivery saw that they had a good business possibility, and handicapped the operators very much by not furnishing empty cars to deliver the product to market. To overcome this obstacle, they sold out to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Co. for some cash and the rest in securities of the corporation. The P. & R. C. & I. Co. then began operation on a large scale.

They opened up what is known as number one tunnel and extended their gangway to the dividing line between Brookside and Williamstown. The next developments were No. 2 slope and No. 3 slope. After operating these projects for a few years, they opened No. 4 slope. East Brookside shaft, one of the deepest mining shafts in the United States was then driven. Also several tunnels between Reinerton and Joliett were opened. These mines have been operating quite steadily ever since.

At present the mines are owned and operated by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Co. Daniel Holahan is the present superintendent.

EDUCATION

The education of the children of Tower City was first begun in 1868. The Reformed and Lutheran Church conducted a church school in a one-room log building located where the present Reformed Church now stands. In 1869 another log school building was constructed about one-half mile south of town on the present Clark's Valley road near the Greenwood Cemetery. This

school was conducted by Tobias Bender and was poorly equipped. It was filled with back-less wooden benches, and although there were no desks, a slanting board ran around the room on which the pupils placed their copy books, whenever they had any written work to do. In this same year Frank P. Henry came to this valley, and in 1870 he started on his career of teaching school. Mr. Henry was one of the earliest educators in the valley. He taught school in Tower City and Porter Township until 1922 when he retired after teaching for fifty-two years. In 1870 a one-room brick school was erected in Tower City where the present high school now stands. In 1874 another school house was built on the corner of Fourth St. and Wiconisco Ave. where the Henry shirt factory is now located. It was a two-room structure with recitation platforms. These two schools served the needs of Tower City until 1885, when the high school was established in the last named building with J. M. Schroepe, of Hegins, as principal. In 1888 the first class graduated from the high school.

This class was composed of the following members: Wellington Snyder, attorney of Philadelphia, now deceased and E. A. Thompson of Pottsville, retired.

The class of 1888 was examined by Frank P. Henry, who at this time was principal of the township schools.

The first principal of the Tower City schools, after the town became a borough, was J. H. Millar, who received \$70 monthly for his services. For a number of years a new principal was elected every other year or so, due to the lack of harmony between the school board and principal.

In 1894 the present brick grade building was erected by Jacob Batdorf, a Williamstown contractor. By

1898, twenty-one branches were being taught in the schools, and the graduating classes were examined by four non-resident teachers.

The present high school building was erected in 1920.

The principals who served the Tower City public schools are as follows: F. P. Henry; J. M. Schroepe, 1885-1893; J. H. Millar, 1893-1896; Jonas Zettlemoyer, 1896-1898; D. F. Detter, 1898-1900; E. I. Miller, 1900-1901; S. C. Moyer, 1901-1902; E. B. Jenkyn, 1902-1910; E. A. Thompson, 1910-1913; A. B. Moyer, 1913-1914; Miss M. A. Boyer, 1914-1917; Geo. P. Kehl, 1917-1918; M. L. Beamenderfer, 1918-1920; I. W. Shuck, 1920-1921 (left for another position before end of term and his place was taken by L. L. Leister); L. L. Leister, 1921-1924; F. E. Shambaugh, 1924-1929; H. L. Price, 1929-present.

Since no complete school records have been kept, the above list of principals is as nearly correct as was possible to ascertain.

The teachers for 1933-34 term are as follows: H. L. Price, Supervising Principal; Elementary School: Eva M. Prescott, Grade 1; Marion Realey, Grades 1-2; Catherine Lechleitner, Grade 2; Louise Knecht, Grade 3; Alice M. Jury, Grades 3-4; Esther M. Grim, Grade 4; Grace Reiner, Grades 5-6; Violet P. Daub, Grades 5-6; Ella Berney, Grades 5-6; High School: Anthony Tremetiere, Instrumental Music; Laura A. Beider, English; Elmer S. Noll, Social Studies; C. Ruth Henry, Commercial; Robert W. Jacks, Science, Mathematics; Fredricka Baker, English, Latin; Riley E. Zerbe, Mathematics; Ruth C. Frankenfield, French, Music; Christina M. Gable, (7-8) Health, Geography; Henry A. Lebo, (7-8) History, English.

Board of Education is composed of: W. K. Knecht, Pres.; Harper E. Updegrave, Vice Pres.; Daniel L.

Neyer, Secy.; Clair L. Miller, Treas., and Chas. E. Evans, Director.

Manufacturing

The first manufacturing establishment was developed by John B. Mattis, who built a tannery on the south side of Wiconisco Avenue near Neidlinger's farm. He operated this business for many years and produced a quality of leather which was very popular at that time.

The next enterprise was opened by Wm. Grove and a Mr. Boyer, who located at Sheridan, and started a stocking mill. This was operated a few years and then the business dissolved.

W. J. Henry opened the Enterprise Shirt Factory and later took as a partner W. J. Powell. Upon the death of Mr. Powell the factory was taken over and is now operated by C. S. Henry.

Another shirt factory was opened on South Sixth St., owned by Dr. W. A. Hawk. This business was discontinued after a number of years of operation.

Wellington N. Snyder of Elizabethville opened up a lumber mill and yard, located along the Williams Valley Railroad between First and Second Streets. It is at present operated under the firm name of the William's Valley Lumber and Construction Co.

A mill was opened, in 1914, operated under the name of Bestock Underwear Factory. It is this community's largest manufacturing industry, employing many town people and has worked continuously, even through the depression. It has been a great asset to the community. Gordon Pennell is the general manager.

Factories opened after 1915 were the Unrivalled Hosiery Mill in 1917 and the Knorr Shirt Factory in 1926.

All of these industries have been very beneficial to the community

since they have afforded employment for those not employed in the mines as well as for women.

At present the industries in Tower City include: Brookside Mines, Knorr Shirt Factory, C. S. Henry Shirt Factory, Bestock Underwear Mills, Unrivalled Hosiery Mills, Williams Valley Construction Co., Travitz Cement Block Plant, Fees Flour Mill, Shadle Bottling Works, Hawk Drug Co., Trautman Ice Cream Plant.

Commerce And Travel

The abundance of fish and game in this section induced the early settlers to live here, and establish, what might be termed, trading posts as an outlet for the furs and pelts they collected.

The nearest trading points were Lykens and Pine Grove, and it was a common thing for the female members of the family to walk to Lykens or Pine Grove, to exchange their furs for products and clothing that were needed. The only other means of travel was by truck wagons. These, however, were much too cumbersome to travel a great distance over the rough trails.

Finally, after the coal industry was started more roads were built and in 1868 the Reading Company extended their railroad lines to Brookside Colliery. Means of travel, of course, were much improved then, but still not enough to make the transportation of merchandise and passengers easy, because the railroad was located near the top of the mountain and did not extend into town. At that time the only traffic coming through the valley was by train, to Tower City Station, and then by stage coach to Lykens. This was a slow means of transportation.

In 1893, after many years of struggle with the Reading Company, the people of this Valley organized the Williams Valley Railroad Co., to build a railroad extending from

Brookside to Lykens. Stock in the company was bought by people residing in Williamstown, Lykens and Tower City. Up to 1908 this company was controlled by local people. The laws governing the operation of small railroads became so exacting that there were heavy grants placed upon it and operation became very expensive. The Reading Co. then agreed to take the controlling interest and operate it.

Since the Reading Co. has possession of this road they have made numerous improvements and bought new equipment. Numerous factories and other developments were brought about by the construction of this road, and travel through the Valley has been much improved.

The original officers of the Williams Valley Railroad Co. were: Carrol R. Williams, Philadelphia, Pres.; E. F. Phillips, Tower City, Treas.; C. M. Kauffman, Tower City, Secy., and H. T. Bressler, Tower City, Smith Martin, Tower City, J. W. Durbin, Williamstown, Amos Lebo, Williamstown, Isaac Mossop, Wiconisco, Edward Lebo, Lykens, and Martin Bloom, Lykens, Directors.

C. M. Kaufman of Tower City served as president and general manager of this road for a number of years.

After the Williams Valley railroad had been operating for a few years a party of promoters conceived the idea of building a trolley line to extend from Lykens to Tower City. This was done and the trolley company operated for a long time. The tracks have now been taken up, and the trolley replaced by the Reading Co. buses.

At present trade and travel can be carried on easily by means of the Reading R. R., Reading Co. buses, or the fine highway, U. S. Route 209, for those who have automobiles.

Seeley Tunnel

Located north of the United Brethern Church, somewhere back of the Edgar Trautman or the Jos. White residences, is one of the oldest landmarks of Tower City, the Seeley Tunnel.

Ebenezer Seeley and his son, John T., of New York, took up their residence in the valley and built a log house on the bank of the Wiconisco Creek, now Maple Heights, Tower City. They came with the intention of opening the coal region. With indomitable courage but a slim purse, they started driving the "Red Shale," or Seeley Tunnel. Along with some Harrisburg parties, a charter was obtained to build a railroad from Dauphin, thru Clark's Valley, then through the Brookside Mountain by way of the Seeley Tunnel, to Rausch Gap in Hegins Township, then up the Deep Creek Valley to Ashland.

The tunnel was driven for about eight hundred feet, when the funds became exhausted and the undertaking was abandoned.

There were from twelve to fifteen miles of road bed graded at the west end of Clark's Valley. The experienced miners say that if this tunnel had been completed all the coal in this district would then have been discovered, and the expenses of mining would have been much less than at present, because mining would have been done on water level and all the expenses of pumping avoided.

RELIGION

As early as 1800 settlers came across the Broad Mountain and settled in the Williams Valley. According to the custom of our forefathers these early settlers erected a log school house for church and school purposes, at what is now known as Tower City, on about three-fourths an acre of land granted to the school

and church organization by Peter Brown. This house was used by the Lutheran and Reformed people until 1820 when this church school burned down. Our forefathers made an effort to rebuild, and thus provide for the religious training and education of their children. To this new enterprise John Hand, Sr. gave eight acres of land, on condition that a school house and church be erected on the land given by him. In 1842 when the deed was issued twenty-five dollars was paid for the eight acres by the Lutheran and Reformed Congregations. While the grant of land was made in 1822 the actual beginning according to the church records of the Lutheran and Reformed Congregations dates from 1825. A communion is recorded in this year.

Lutheran

In 1856 the Lutheran and Reformed people built St. Peter's Church at Orwin. This is the oldest church building in the valley. Rev. F. W. Walz (Lutheran) and Rev. N. E. Bressler (Reformed) were the pastors who officiated at the corner-stone laying and the dedication. The following year 1857 an effort was made to build a new church, in place of the old one in Tower City. The corner-stone was laid on Oct. 23, 1857 in the name of Zion's Lutheran and Reformed Church. This building was never completed.

From 1857 to 1873 the parish was without regular pastors.

In 1873 Rev. M. B. Lenker became the first regular pastor of St. Paul's Tower City, and St. Peter's Orwin. During his pastorate the first building was erected on the present site of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. The church bell is the gift of Mrs. Charlemagne Tower.

On July 26, 1891, Rev. Wm. F. Bond was installed as the first resident pastor. The parsonage was

built in 1894, and the stone wall in 1902. He remained pastor until 1905.

On July 9, 1905, Rev. Ira F. Frankenfield preached his introductory sermon. 1909-1910 the church was rebuilt and enlarged, 1917 a new organ installed, 1918 the parsonage was renovated and beautified.

There have been but three regular pastors serving this congregation. Rev. Ira F. Frankenfield is the present pastor.

Reformed

The early history of the Reformed congregation is practically the same as that included in the Lutheran Church history up to 1889, when it was decided that the two congregations would no longer continue their worship jointly, but each build and meet separately. It was agreed upon that the Lutheran congregation would pay back to the Reformed people whatever was due them.

Not until 1892 did the Reformed people erect their first building, and in 1928 this building was remodeled and enlarged. It is the present Reformed Church.

Rev. C. E. Heffleger is the present pastor.

Methodist

The first Methodist Church in this vicinity was begun when the circuit minister, Meredith, started his work here. Every Sunday he would come to Tower City and conduct services in the little log school or in the adjoining Grove.

In 1870, in what is now Sheridan, the first Church was built. Later in 1888 the church was torn down and a new frame church built on the corner of Fourth St. and Grand Ave. This church was used until 1918 when it was rebuilt and stands as the present Methodist Church.

From 1870 to the present day there have been thirty-seven ministers serve this congregation, Rev. Leroy

Eberhardt being the thirty-seventh and present pastor.

United Brethern

The United Brethern Church was built in Tower City in 1872. During the pastorate of Rev. Arndt in 1886 the church was enlarged and a tower built on it. The bell in the tower was a gift of Mrs. Charlemagne Tower. She also presented the church with a gift of a large pulpit Bible.

In 1918 a new church building was erected and is the building serving the present congregation.

Since the organization of the congregation in 1871 there have been twenty-nine ministers serve this congregation.

Rev. Ira D. Lowery is the present pastor.

Zion Evangelical

Zion Evangelical Congregation was organized sometime before 1870, and in 1872 their first church building was erected. This building was remodeled and enlarged in 1922, and is at present the building used for worship.

Rev. C. T. Arner is the present pastor.

Due to the merger of the Evangelical and United Evangelical Churches in 1922, which caused a split in the Evangelical Congregation in Tower City into two groups. the records of the church have been lost and no history was obtainable.

Evangelical Congregational

The Evangelical Congregational Church was formed from the group that broke away from the Zion Evangelical Church in 1922.

They first began to meet in the I. O. O. F. building above Luther Horn's store. Later they purchased and rebuild the home of G. Schoffstall and from it evolved a church and parsonage.

Rev. J. J. Fasnacht is the present pastor.

Catholic Church

Originally, what is now the territory of the Catholic Parish of Tower City, belonged to the Catholic Parish (Immaculate Conception) of Tremont, which parish was established in 1851.

During the period from 1865 to about 1880 the Catholic people of this vicinity would meet in the various and most convenient Catholic homes in the valley, and the priest, coming from Tremont, would celebrate mass. One of the earliest places where Mass was celebrated in this region was at Bettinger's Hotel, Muir, the house now occupied by the Paul Wirt family. Later at the Schreiner Hotel, now Knouff's Hotel, and then in the late seventies in the Martin Carroll home, Tower City. It was at this home that the first Mass was celebrated in Tower City.

In the fall of 1880, upon petition, the Tower City board of education, allowed the Catholics the use of the old brick school building (where the present high school now stands) for Sunday worship. This was used for a period of eight years.

In 1888 the Catholics started a movement for a church building of their own, and a lot was selected on the corner of Ninth St. and Grand Ave. This lot was selected because it gave a free title and was the approximate centre of the parish.

The first Mass was celebrated in the new church on a Sunday during the fall of 1889, Father McDevitt officiating. This church was only a mission church until the fall of 1896, when the Archbishop of the Diocese granted the wishes of the congregation to be raised to the status of parish church with a resident pastor. Rev. Francis M. Ward was appointed as the first pastor. He took charge on Dec. 8, 1896. This church is known as the SS. Peter and Paul Church, Tower City. The present pastor is the Rev. John F. Cuniff.

CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

Civic Club

The Civic Club of Tower City was organized the first week of December, 1927, at the Williams Valley lumber mill. There were fifteen men at this first meeting headed by M. Clayton Spangler. The purpose of organization was to secure money for Christmas trees and food for needy people. Membership in this club was fixed at \$1. The first Christmas tree for the borough was placed in front of the school on the public square. For three years the tree was placed annually at this place and then moved to the cemetery corner.

During the past few years the organization has not functioned as desired because of the depression.

This body, although organized to help the needy, also undertook whatever movements they could for the betterment of the community.

An industrial department was set up soon after Thos. Schell was elected chief burgess. The purpose of this department was to induce new industries to come to Tower City to relieve the unemployment situation. In this undertaking they were not successful since the people of Tower City were unable to back up any new industries under present conditions. Along with this department was also added an industrial fund that is to be used for no other purpose except giving aid to a new industry.

An Amusement and Benevolent Fund was also established. The first officers of this organization were: Clayton Spangler, Pres.; Wm. Powell, Secy.; John Kniley, Treas.

The present officers: Thos. Schell, Pres.; Jos. Seesholtz, Secty.; John Kniley, Treas.

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month in Room 10 in the grade school building.

Local Union, No. 1361 U. M. W. A. was organized on Sept. 10, 1900, by Miles Dougherty and John Hartnedy, in the Kaufman house, now occupied by Chas. Pfeiffer, and known as the Commercial Hotel. Six weeks later, Oct. 22, 1900, some of the men from the upper end of the valley claimed it to be too inconvenient for them so they organized the Reinerton Local No. 1551. The Union officers elected were as follows: Henry Culbert, Pres.; Charles Reigle, Secty.-Treas.

The National officers were: John Mitchell, Pres.; W. B. Wilson, Secty.-Treas.

On Jan. 30, 1931 committees were appointed from both Tower City Local No. 1361 and Reinerton Local No. 1551 to try and agree on having these locals merge. This was then put to a vote and agreed upon by Reinerton, but was defeated by Tower City. Again in May 1933, the same question was brought up and favorably voted upon.

At present there is one local union known as Reinerton Local No. 1551, U. M. W. A. for the Brookside Collieries.

The officers are as follows: Chas. Graeff, Pres.; Thos. Schell, Vice Pres.; Robert Updegrove, Recording Secty.; James Culbert, Financial Secty.; Mark Kopp, Treas.

Volunteer Fire Company No. 1

Forty-four citizens of Tower City attended a meeting held in May, 1895, in the P. O. S. of A. Opera House for the purpose of organizing a fire company. Temporary officers were elected, and a committee appointed to draw up a constitution.

At the next meeting, held May 16, 1895, the constitution was adopted and regular officers were elected as follows: Pres., W. J. Henry; Vice Pres., James Lewis; Treas., I. Patrick; Secty., E. A. Thompson; Foreman, Charles Fegley; Assistant Foremen, James Ganly, D. E. Messner,

Robert Waters, W. W. Frank, Daniel Berger, D. P. Thompson, Peter Kendall.

The school board of Tower City gave the Fire Company the use of one of the school rooms for their meeting place, and on June 11, 1895, they began to meet in this room.

Not until 1903 did the fire company have a meeting place of their own. In this year, a building was constructed where the present fire house stands. A few years later, 1906 or 1907, this building was remodeled.

The first motor equipment purchased by the Volunteers was in 1919, a Ford fire truck. This they had until 1927, when the present, modern, and up-to-date Seagrave engine was purchased.

The present officers: Pres., A. D. Lewis; Vice Pres., Wm. Bowerman; Secty., Francis Griffith; Treas., W. K. Knecht; Foreman, Homer Seiler; Engineer, Al Achenbach; Ass't. Foreman, Chas. Long; Ass't. Engineer, Lester Zimmerman; Fire Chief, W. K. Knecht.

Women's Organizations

The women's social organizations are as follows: Camp No. 91, Patriotic Order of True Americans, organized Sept. 18, 1894; Council No. 37, Daughters of America, organized May 17, 1905; American Legion Auxiliary, organized Feb. 17, 1925; Pythian Sisters, organized June 13, 1927.

Men's Organizations

The men's social organizations are as follows: Camp No. 52, Patriotic Order Sons of America, chartered before 1870; rechartered Oct. 24, 1871; Independent Order of Odd Fellows, chartered Feb. 13, 1871; Jr. Order United American Mechanics, chartered July 17, 1889; Lodge No. 13, Knights of Pythias, chartered Nov. 21, 1906; Lodge No. 1603, Loyal Order of Moose, chartered Nov. 15, 1919; Harry J. Haertter Post No. 468,

American Legion, chartered Dec. 18, 1919; Troop 113, Boy Scouts of America, chartered Jan. 1, 1927; Philharmonic Club.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Tower City National Bank

The Tower City National Bank was organized on Feb. 6, 1902. There were twenty original subscribers to the Articles of Association.

First Board of Directors: C. M. Kaufman, President; I. Mossop, Jos. Delaney, A. Fortenbaugh, F. J. Douden, Elsworth Schwalm, W. F. Knecht, Grant Schoffstall, I. A. Evans, Geo. Evans, W. O. Schwalm.

Original par value, \$100 per share; Par value in 1928 \$50 per share; Original capital, \$25,000; Increased in 1918 to \$175,000; Present deposits, \$1,267,256.41; First deposits, \$2,469 (1902).

Cashiers, Tellers and Clerks from date of organization: W. E. Kehler, Cashier from 1902-1913; A. D. Lewis Teller 1902-1913; A. D. Lewis, Cashier from 1913-present; A. C. Schreiner, Teller 1913-1918; J. A. Miller, Clerk 1917-1918; J. A. Miller, Asst. Cashier 1918-present; R. W. Schell, Teller 1918-present; Miss A. M. Mickowychock, Clerk 1930-present.

Present Officers and Directors: C. M. Kaufman, Pres.; W. F. Knecht, Vice Pres.; A. A. Unger, Secy.; I. A. Evans, H. A. Evans, G. W. Driebelbis, B. W. Fees, A. Stephens, and J. B. Watkins, Directors.

Building and Loan Associations

Tower City is very fortunate in having two strong and progressive Building and Loan Associations, the Williams Valley Saving Fund and Loan Association and the Franklin Saving Fund and Loan Association. The former was organized in 1901 as a continuation of one of the oldest associations in the county, which had been established in 1874, and the latter was organized in 1896.

Williams Valley Saving Fund and Loan Association report for 1932 showed the following: Shares in force, 1271; Shares matured, 175; Assets, \$68,994.24; Dividends paid, \$2,292.20; Officers: Pres., Thomas E. Koppenhaver; Vice Pres., Daniel L. Neyer; Treas., Daniel Grim; Secy., Walter E. Updegrove.

Directors: Daniel Grim, Alfred Moyer, W. E. Updegrove, Edward Shadle, H. O. Unger, James Kopp, H. M. Stuck, Mark Kopp, Peter Strausser, and Ralph Moyer.

Franklin Saving Fund and Loan Association report for 1933 showed: Shares in force, 460; Shares matured, 25; Assets, \$19,212.86; Dividends paid, \$366.03.

Officers: Pres., H. L. Price; Vice Pres., Joseph G. Seesholtz; Treas., James W. Carroll; Secy., J. A. Keisling.

Directors: Chas. E. Evans, Wm. P. Klinger, John J. Leonard, Joseph Ganly, Samuel Rhoads, E. F. Kantner, and Roy G. Moore.

Newspaper

Until 1910 there were two newspapers in Tower City, the older being the "Valley Echo", started by the sons of Dr. R. B. Wilson in 1883; and the younger, the West Schuylkill Herald, started by W. F. Knecht in 1898. Dr. Wilson continued to publish the Echo until 1908, when it was taken over by Attorney E. J. Webb and Prof. E. B. Jenkyn, who conducted it until 1910, when it was purchased and consolidated with the West Schuylkill Herald by W. F. Knecht. At present the paper still bears the name West Schuylkill Herald and is owned and edited by W. K. Knecht, son of the founder, W. F. Knecht.

A county legal publication, "The Schuylkill Register", is published at Tower City. It was begun Dec. 1, 1933 and is owned and edited by W. K. Knecht.

Tower City at Present

Tower City today, extends eastward from the Sulphur Creek, which separates Sheridan and the western end of the borough, to Twelfth St., two blocks beyond the J. B. Watkins Garage. It has five streets running east and west, namely, Grand Avenue (the main thoroughfare), Wiconisco Avenue, Colliery Avenue, Maple Avenue and Martin Street, and also streets numbered from One to Twelve and two named streets, Hand and Belle Sts., running north and south.

Since the time it was incorporated into a borough in 1893, many additions and improvements have been made. Some of these are: paved streets, electric lighting facilities, telegraph and telephone service, town water supply, new school buildings, new churches, modern fire apparatus, many new industries and a civic organization.

Although Tower City is chiefly a coal mining town, not all the people find employment in the mines, because of the many and varied industries located here, about fifteen in number.

For the educational and spiritual betterment of its citizens, Tower City has its own public school system and seven churches. A public library is also conducted in conjunction with the public schools. Present Borough Officers: Chief Burgess, Thos. Schell; Council—John Schreiner, Dr. Ray Bressler, Wilfred Miller, Harry Machamer, Samuel Straub, Jacob Soliday, and Wm. Netherwood.

Property Assessor, Geo. Schrope; Tax Receiver, James Kopp; Chief of Police, Leroy Kopp; Constable, Ed. F. Carl; Justice of Peace, Leroy F. Kaufman, 1933-1939.

Wm. J. Henry, who had been justice of the Peace from 1893 died while holding the office, during 1934.

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

Sources of Information

The sources of information for this history are as follows: Miss L. A. Beider, Robert Schell, George Fesig, Leroy Kaufman, Wilfred Miller, Daniel Messner, William Dubbs, Belle Reedy, Annie Houtz, Margaret Lemke, Mrs. John Trout, W. J. Henry, Edward Masterson, C. M. Kaufman, John Reinhard, Robert Nunemacher, W. F. Knecht, Rev. J. J. Fasnacht.

Rev. Ira D. Lowery, Rev. Leroy Eberhart, Rev. Ira Frankenfield, Rev. C. T. Arner, Rev. C. E. Heffleger, Rev. John F. Cuniff, Frank P. Henry, Arthur D. Lewis, Edgar Kopp, Robert Updegrove, John Miller, James F. Nunemacher, Thomas Schell, Daniel L. Neyer, Valley Echo, West Schuylkill Herald, History—Williams-Lykens Valley.

Shenandoah Important Coal Centre

By the Pupils of the J. W. Cooper High School

(From "Pottsville Republican"—"Morning Paper," Dec. 26, 1934-Jan. 5, 1935)

The Committee in charge of preparing the History of Shenandoah makes no pretense at furnishing a thoroughly balanced presentation. They aim to furnish an interesting and readable report—a summary of the government, civic growth, social life, and economic development of Shenandoah. The material is a review of facts from its early development to the present.

Acknowledgements — The Committee wishes to express its gratitude to all those who aided in gathering materials and in any manner assisting in compiling the project—"THE HISTORY OF SHENANDOAH."

EARLY HISTORY FROM 1835 TO 1883

Shenandoah, a coal center of Schuylkill County, is in the northern part of Mahanoy Township, being one of five large and prosperous boroughs in the valley of the Mahanoy Creek. It is on the Shenandoah branch of the Pennsylvania and Reading Railroad, fourteen miles from Pottsville. It is distant from Mauch Chunk eighteen miles, and one hundred and five miles from Philadelphia.

The site of Shenandoah was originally owned by Peter Kehley, who as early as 1835 built a log house near the present Lehigh Valley station. Several years prior to 1860, he was induced to sell it for a nominal consideration, but continued to occupy it, at an annual rental of a dollar until his death.

In the spring of 1862 the purchasers of Mr. Kehley's land, then or subsequently known as the Philadelphia Land Company, an-

ticipating the speedy opening of coal mines here, had the town surveyed and plotted by P. W. Sheaffer, then acting as civil engineer for that company. The place was given the name of "Shenandoah City" probably after Shenandoah Creek, which runs through the southeastern portion of the present borough.

The following summer the Land Company built a hotel on the corner of Main and Center Streets (the present site of the Ferguson House) which was opened under the name of the United States Hotel, in August, 1872. This was the first frame building in Shenandoah.

The same year, James Hutton built two dwelling houses, and building was begun in 1862. The construction and opening of Shenandoah City Colliery brought to this place many of the first settlers. Some of these were: Seymour Wright, Jacob O. Reads, James Hutton, Christian Young, John Houser.

The nationalities of the early town represent several different

languages and the cosmopolitan manner of living was one of its most prominent features.

Organization of Borough

Shenandoah was incorporated as a borough on the 16th of January, 1866. A petition setting forth its boundaries and signed by one hundred freeholders had been presented to the court of Schuylkill County in September previous.

At the first election, held in the spring of 1866, the following officers were chosen: Chief Burgess, Frederick Wright; Council, C. J. Heller, President; Martin Franey, Thomas Egan, Christian Young; and George Quinn, Secretary; J. F. Murphy, Treasurer; Anthony Devitt, Solicitor; Charles D. Nipple, High Constable; and Collector, Michael O'Hara.

The following have served as chief burgess of the borough: Thomas Cassedy, 1867; J. P. Hoffman, 1868; John Tobin, 1869-71; George G. Jacoby, 1872; Michael O'Hara, 1873-74; J. D. Conner, 1875; William Kimmel, 1876-77; M. J. Whalen, 1878; Joseph Boehm, 1879-80; Daniel P. Williams, 1881.

In September, 1874, the borough was divided into two election districts, on the line of Main Street; and in September, 1875, it was divided into five wards.

The number of votes polled for Chief Burgess was 152 in 1867; 612 in 1874, and 1,053 in 1879. The population of the borough in 1870 was 2,951; and in June 1880, 10,061, composed principally of Pennsylvania German, Irish, Welsh, Poles, English and German.

The growth of Shenandoah was seriously retarded because of the fact that the land surrounding it is owned by corporations who would not improve it and refused to sell it. There are perhaps more people to the square mile in Shenandoah than in any other place in the United States. The population has out-

grown the dimensions of the town, and unless the "estates" and companies that hold the titles to all the land surrounding the town, can be induced to sell or lease, in order to house the rapidly increasing population, it will be necessary to build the town skyward; and Shenandoah, like New York, will be a city of flats.

Major Industry

Coal mining is the most important industry of Shenandoah. It contributes to the welfare of the community, state and nation by its large supply of coal.

About 1820, while Peter Kehley and a relative by the name of Brobst were making shingles on the side of the mountain north of where Kohinoor Colliery now stands, they found pieces of coal in the stream and decided to obtain a patent from the state for those lands, the price being but a few dollars per acre, the cost of making a survey and preparing patent papers; they took up five acres and mined some coal which they disposed of to a blacksmith near Ringtown. It was said that as winter came on, Kehley, being short of cash, traded his interest in the coal lands for an overcoat.

The first mining done near Shenandoah, after the Kehley work of 1821, was in 1862, when a colliery was opened by Miller, Roads and Company, near where the Shenandoah City Colliery is now located. The mine was ready to ship coal in the fall of 1862, but delayed until a railroad was built in 1863.

The second oldest mine was opened in 1864 by George R. Frill, Joseph Fisher and John B. Reber, but was operated by the Thomas Coal Company from 1867 to 1904. It is situated on two sides of a ravine, through which flows Kehley's Run, from which the colliery takes its name.

The third oldest colliery, the Plank Ridge Colliery, was opened in 1864, and commenced shipping coal in 1865. The original lessees were Richard Lee, William Grant and Company. This colliery is located in the southeastern part of the borough, and is now operated by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company.

West Shenandoah Colliery was opened in 1869 by M. F. Maize and Wm. R. Lewis. This colliery is located a little south of Kohinoor colliery and slightly east of the borough's western line, upon lands of Gilbert and Sheaffer. In 1878, the mine was transferred to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, who are still operating it.

Indian Ridge Colliery is located near the eastern limits of the town upon lands formerly owned by Bowers, Jones and others. This colliery was opened in 1869. The original lessees were William Kendrick of Pottsville; John J. Dovey of Philadelphia and David Davis of Shenandoah, under the firm name of William Kendrick and Co. The firm continued its operations until 1873, when they sold their interest to the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, who are its present operators.

The Cambridge Colliery, located in the southern part of town, upon the estate of Gilbert and Sheaffer, was opened about 1875 by James Banks and Company. The original owners continued to operate it until about 1880, when it was leased by Wm. R. James, Benj. Thomas and Henry Pierce, who named it Cambridge Colliery.

The amount of coal shipped from the eleven collieries in this valley in 1870 amounted to 537,790 tons, being over one-sixth of the entire product for the entire County, with its 132 collieries in operation in that year. The inexhaustible supply of

Anthracite in this valley, which has built up and maintained a most important place, from its conception in 1863, is naturally of prevailing interest to all, but more especially to property owners, business men and stockholders in the various enterprises of this borough, both public and private.

Minor industries are: Shenandoah Screen Works, 1873, had for its purpose the manufacturing of wrought-iron screens for coal breakers; Shenandoah Herald, 1875, was then operating as a daily; Citizens Water and Gas, 1870, had a capitalization of \$50,000; The first bank established in Shenandoah was the Shenandoah Valley bank.

EDUCATION

It was on the date of February 16, 1866, the first Board of School Directors were elected. Prior to the organization of this board the schools were under the direction and jurisdiction of West Mahanoy Township.

The first School Board of the borough was organized May 15, 1866, and consisted of six directors, who were: Nathan Longenberger, P. J. Ferguson, John Tobin, J. P. Hoffman, Martin Scanlan, William Ploppert. At that time the borough had but two wards—East and West—Main Street being the dividing line.

Mr. Longenberger was the first president of the board and Mr. Ferguson was the first secretary and treasurer. Mr. Scanlan was collector of taxes at the same time.

The first School Board, after its organization, found itself surrounded with difficulties. The building that stood on the site of the present structure at the corner of Lloyd and West Streets, was owned by the West Mahanoy Township School District. When the Shenandoah in-

dependent district was created, the township authorities closed the building and refused to surrender possession unless they received \$2,000 for the property. The board refused to pay and a law suit followed. Counsel was employed in the person of John W. Ryan, Esq., but the case never came to trial. The township agreed to settle for \$500. Later the secretary received an opinion from the State Superintendent to the effect that the board could take possession of the building and the township authorities could not interfere. The settlement with the township had already been effected and the matter was dropped. The first school term was for nine months.

On Dec. 3, 1870, the School Board petitioned the Legislature for permission to issue \$15,000 of 8 per cent bonds, and on April 10, 1871, purchased two lots on the southwest corner of Centre and West Streets for \$1200.

In 1872 they decided to erect the building on the site purchased, and on Feb. 18, 1873, the building was opened and relieved crowded conditions of the Lloyd Street school.

On July 2, 1874, the first superintendent, Prof. G. W. Barch, was elected for a term of nine months at a salary of \$1,000. Prof. Barch was re-elected, April 20, 1875, for a term of three years, at a salary of \$1500 per year.

On Sept. 2, 1875, drawing was introduced as a branch of study in the schools. On Nov. 20, 1875, the superintendent was given power to examine, promote, and make all necessary changes. The School Board of 1876 was organized June 7, with an increased membership, the borough having been divided into five wards. On July 6, 1876, the board appointed the first regular committees.

Vocal music was introduced as a branch of study, March 7, 1877. On April 3, 1879 the board purchased two lots on North Main Street, and decided to build a high school. The contract was awarded to J. H. Mears for \$5490. The building was equipped with steam heat, water, gas and a stage for commencement exercises.

The first class graduated from the Shenandoah High School in May, 1879. The Shenandoah Public Library was established on Jan. 15, 1880, and was used only by teachers as a reference library. On March 31, 1881, it was thrown open to the public for the first time.

Fraternal Organizations

Shenandoah Lodge, No. 591, I. O. O. F. was instituted by District Deputy George W. Rofsnyder, with 17 charter members, Dec. 17, 1866. The following officers were elected: Geo. Depew, N. G.; Robert Weightman, N. G.; Geo. L. Reagan, Sec.; Geo. A. Herring, Treas.

The Lodge had a membership of 153. It was in a flourishing condition, its assets amounting to nearly \$10,000.

Washington Camp, No. 112, P. O. S. of A., was organized in Egan's Hall, in Shenandoah, May 4, 1869, with twelve charter members. The first elective officers were: S. D. Hess, Past President; J. S. Farringer, President; J. W. Deitrick, Vice-President; J. R. Miller, M. of F. and C.; L. F. Rober, R. S.; Sylvester Yost, Assistant Sec.; James F. Jacoby, F. S.; Geo. R. Shaeffer, Treas.; Jonathan Yost, Cond.; M. S. Shoemaker, I. G.; Lewis Weidenmoyer, O. G.; Chas. M. Wasley, Chaplain.

The order is a beneficiary one, and applicants to be eligible, must not be less than eighteen years of age and must be native born Americans.

St. Patrick's Mutual Benefit Association, No. 147, was a branch of the Irish Catholic Benevolent Union and was chartered and organized March 19, 1870, with fifteen original members. J. J. Franey was elected the first president and J. A. Tobin, the first secretary. The society numbered 120 members.

Shenandoah Tribe, No. 155, Improved Order of Red Men was instituted Oct. 4, 1871, with thirty charter members. The officers elected were: Geo. T. Taylor, Sachem; Reese J. Thomas, Sr. S.; John Adams, Jr. S.; C. C. Wagner, Chief of Records; Thos. H. Taylor, Keeper of Wampum.

This tribe made rapid progress for a time after its organization, until it attained a membership of 232, but the strikes, the unreliable condition of the coal interest and finally the panic of 1873, reduced its membership to less than 100.

Shenandoah Lodge, No. 511, F. and A. M., was instituted Sept. 25, 1872, with twenty-one charter members. William Grant was its first presiding officer.

St. Michael's C. M. B. A. (German) was a branch of the German Catholic Central Asso. It was organized Jan. 14, 1873. The original members numbered forty-seven. The first officers were: Michael Peter, Pres.; Wm. Graecher, Vice Pres.; Jos. Harman, Secy.; Jos. Boch, Treas.; Christ Beyrant, Doorkeeper; Wm. Schmicker, Peter Boltzer, and Michael Valerius, Trustees.

Silver Wave Castle, No. 45, Ancient Order of Knights of the Mystic Chain, was instituted February 10, 1873, with twenty-three charter members. The first officers were: E. N. Harpel, Com.; E. R. Haywood, Vice Com.; J. C. Dovey, T. L.; Jasper Wylem, R. S.; E. N. Levering, A.

R. S.; T. M. Greenwood, T. S.; R. R. Greener, Treas.; A. Greenawald, I. G.; Alfred Wells, O. G.; J. S. Williams, C. of S.

The membership was over one hundred.

Plank Ridge Lodge, No. 880, I. O. O. F., was instituted June 10, 1874, with twenty charter members. The first officers were: E. N. Harpel, N. G.; E. D. Beddall, V. G.; T. W. Taylor, Sec.; S. R. Broome, Asst. Sec.; Jacob Bamberger, Treas.

This lodge increased rapidly in numbers and wealth and on Jan. 1, 1875, had a membership of 130.

St. Kasimer's C. M. B. A. (Polish) was organized as a branch of the Irish Catholic Benevolent Association, Feb. 14, 1875, with twenty-four members. Sylvester Brocius was elected president and Felix Murawsky, secretary.

National Guards of Warsaw, an organization composed entirely of Polanders, was organized in Shenandoah, June, 1876, with fifteen members. The first president was Joseph Janicki and the first secretary was Joseph Konopnicki.

Anthracite Lodge, No. 1793, Knights of Honor, was instituted in Shenandoah Sept. 30, 1879, with forty original members. Its first officers were: Thos. J. Foster, Past Director; R. A. Glover, Director; J. H. Dietrick, Sec.; J. G. Hutton, F. S.; Veniah Shoemaker, Treas.

Washington Benevolent Association was organized in Shenandoah Oct. 13, 1880, with twenty original members. The officers elected were: Philip Woll, Pres.; Nicholas Byrant, Vice Pres.; Jos. Holvey, Secy.

Newspapers

On May 28, 1870, the Shenandoah Herald was established by Thos. J. Foster and Henry C. Boyer. On

Aug. 21, 1875, the Evening Herald was established. Subsequently the daily publication was discontinued and the weekly edition continued, but on Nov. 12, 1883, the entire plant, together with that of the Mining Herald, was destroyed by fire. The Shenandoah Herald was revived at once. The office of the Herald was located on Market St., between Centre and Lloyd Sts.

The Sunday Morning News, an independent paper published every Sunday morning, was established in September 1878, by Jas. H. Dietrick and Philip Keck, who ran it in partnership until June, 1880, when Mr. Keck became sole proprietor. It was a nine-column paper, independent in sentiment, and was liberally patronized.

Fire Departments

The first fire company organized in Shenandoah was the Columbia Hose and Steam Fire Engine Co., No. 1. The company was organized July 11, 1870 and was granted a charter July 29, 1872. The charter members were: Thos. J. Foster, H. C. Boyer, Lewis Huntzinger, Matthias Lahrbach, Tim O'Mahoney, Peter Enders, Peter Monaghan, Lewis Lehe, Peter Smith, Peter Beck, John Damm, A. Labred, J. K. P. Schiefly, Lazarus Ellis. The equipment of the Company at that time consisted of two steam fire engines, a combination hose wagon and two horses.

The Rescue Hook and Ladder Co. No. 1 was organized November 3, 1874, and received a charter Feb. 23, 1875. The charter members were:

G. S. James, S. W. Zimmerman, John Cather, John Harris, John Shelley, John Dandow, Wm. Phillips, Wm. Johns, C. D. Hornberger, Geo. W. Boyer, Sam Gilbert, Chas. Becker, Geo. Hartso, E. S. Phillips,

Geo. Frost, John Scheaffer, Benjamin Hacket.

B. G. Hess, B. Beacher, William Brown, Wm. Kolb, Benj. Marshall, Geo. Dawson, Thos. Rigby, Michael Hinkle, John Ploppert, Wm. Sargent, E. Snyder, Fred Ludwig, Geo. Beck, Geo. R. Scheaffer, G. S. Cassidy, Wm. E. Lloyd, Wolf Levine.

They were equipped with a chemical engine, a horse-drawn hook and ladder, truck and five head of horses.

Medical Profession

Dr. W. S. Beach was the first physician to locate in Shenandoah, coming here in 1864, followed a year or two later by Dr. Geo. L. Regan.

The first drug store was opened in 1864 by Wm. C. Kennedy.

The Water and Gas Co.

The Shenandoah Citizens Water and Gas Co. was incorporated under the Act of Assembly on Feb. 25, 1870, with Geo. A. Herring, Geo. L. Reagan, Jos. Boehm, John McDonald, Martin Delaney, Daniel Brocious, Anthony Devitt and Thos. Egan, named as the incorporators. The charter granted authorized the company to take water from the stream known as Kehley's Run and from other streams flowing upon the properties of certain persons or companies claiming the lands situated along the mountain on the north side of the borough of Shenandoah. The capital stock of the company was fixed at \$50,000, divided into five thousand shares of ten dollars each, the company having the right to increase the capital stock, but no advantage was taken of it. Following the granting of the charter, a meeting was held in the old brown school house on West Lloyd St., on March 1, 1870, under the direction of the incorporators. They directed

that the citizens of the borough have the option of subscribing for stock and that subscription books be opened at the United States Hotel, which was located at the southwest corner of Main and Centre Sts. (the present site of the Ferguson House) and was kept by B. K. Yost. Public notice of the opening of the books was given and the following named people became the original stock holders: Martin Delaney, Geo. L. Regan, Wm. Grant, John Cather, Sr., J. Miller Raub, Peter Woll, C. T. Wolrich, Jonathan Wasley, O. P. Hart, G. G. Jacoby, A. E. Shappell, John Brocious, Henry Heiser, Chas. Higgins, Daniel Brocious, J. Jacoby, G. A. Herring, Thos. Grimes, Thos. Creary, B. K. Yost, Anthony Devitt, John Smoyer, Theo. Weiderhold, John Davis, Geo. Quinn, Henry Langfeldt, Patrick Cusick, John Tobin, Thos. Egan, Jos. Boehm, James Hutton, F. J. Kern, Peter Albert, Lyon Blum, Michael Valerius, John Barnhard, John Bonenberger.

At the meeting the following original officers were elected: Geo. A. Herring, president and superintendent; Martin Delaney, treasurer; Geo. L. Regan, secretary. On the 30th of the same month, Wm. Grant, Geo. G. Jacoby, Jos. Boehm, O. P. Hart, J. G. Hutton and Jonathan Wasley were elected directors.

The construction of the water works commenced about April 15, 1870, with the clearing of a site for the first reservoir, the one known as reservoir No. 3, and which is the main reservoir, just north of Kehley's Run Colliery and south of the road leading to Brandonville. The company has over 13 miles of pipe in use and in addition to its own supply has a pipe line connecting with a line leading from the Girard Water Company's reservoirs located above Lost Creek, so that in

case the local supply runs short at any time, or a break should occur in the main, the Girard supply may be resorted to.

Military

Co. H, 8th Regiment N. G. of Pennsylvania, was organized in Shenandoah and mustered June 22, 1876, numbering ninety enlisted men and three commissioned officers. The company was soon after equipped and uniformed and was present at the general encampment at Philadelphia, in August, 1876. The first officers were: Captain, George W. Johnson; 1st Lieut., James G. Roads; 2nd Lieut., Joseph Hoskins. This company was called out and served at Pittsburgh during the riots there in July and August, 1877. Early in 1879 the company was reduced to 63 men, rank and file, in compliance with the new military law of the state.

EARLY CHURCHES

The first public religious movement in Shenandoah was the organization of a Welsh Sunday School in the spring of 1864, by T. W. Davis, Jonathan Ellis and others, which was held at the residence of Lancelot Evans, on Main St. T. W. Davis was the superintendent. It was in this Sunday School that the first sermon in Shenandoah was preached in the Welsh language by Rev. Mr. Hughes, a Welsh minister of St. Clair.

In the spring of 1865 the second organization of a Sunday School was affected by the Welsh inhabitants. The superintendent was T. W. Davis. They met at the home of David Bevan on Main St., but later held their religious meetings in the Brown school house.

Welsh Congregational Church was organized July 22, 1866, with thirteen male and six female members. T. W. Davis, Henry Davis and Elias Ellis were chosen deacons. This was the first church organization in Shenandoah. For the first nine months it was served by Henry C. Harris as pastor. They soon erected a frame church building on West St. at a cost of \$2250, and it was ready for occupancy in January 1867. W. J. Thomas accepted full pastoral charge of the church Feb. 18, 1872, and remained until his death, June 22, 1875. He was succeeded by Rev. D. Todd Jones of Mahanoy City.

First M. E. Church—This society held their meetings in the old brown school house on Lloyd St., under the care of Rev. J. Mullen, then pastor of Mt. Carmel M. E. Church. In 1867, they erected a frame church on the southwest corner of Oak and White Sts. at a cost of \$5,000. In 1868 this church received its first regular pastor, Rev. Eli Pickersgill. In 1871, under the pastorate of Rev. J. R. Boyle, the church was enlarged and refitted at a cost of \$10,000.

Welsh Baptist Church was organized in 1867, with eight male members. J. P. Williams was the first deacon and Rev. B. Nicholas the first pastor. Services were held in the Lloyd St. school until 1871 when they built a church on Oak St. It was dedicated Sept. 1871.

Presbyterian Church. The first meeting house was erected in 1867 and dedicated Jan. 30, 1868. On March 17, 1868 the church was organized. Their first pastor was Rev. W. E. Honeyman. The church building, on White and Oak Sts., was renovated in 1880.

Calvinistic Methodist Church (Welsh) was organized at the West Lloyd St. school house by Rev. J. L. Jeffreys, in December, 1869, with about twenty members. William P.

Jones and Henry Davis were chosen deacons. Edward C. Evans preached the first year. In 1870, they erected a building on West St., which was dedicated in November, 1870. Rev. R. V. Griffiths became the first regular pastor in 1873, and remained three years.

Irish Roman Catholic Church. In July, 1870, Rev. Henry F. O'Reilly was appointed as pastor to Shenandoah, by Bishop Wood of Phila. He arrived here July 31, and at once commenced his labors, organizing a church and preparing for the construction of a church building. The cornerstone of the "Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary" was laid by Father O'Reilly June 7, 1872, and the first mass was celebrated in the new building on Sunday, Dec. 19 of the same year. It was a substantial and imposing frame structure of Roman Gothic style. The blessing of the church for divine worship was performed by Bishop Wood, Nov. 4, 1873. The church is located on W. Cherry St.

German Catholic Church. The Roman Catholic Church of the Holy Family, located on Chestnut St., was built in 1870. This formed part of the Mahanoy City parish. In 1874 this became a separate charge under the pastorate of Father Marus Gruetzer. In 1879 the church building was remodeled.

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized June 5, 1870, by Rev. M. Schimpf, pastor of the Lutheran Church of Mahanoy City. Soon afterward Rev. J. Gruhler, who had been a missionary to the Holy Land for nearly seventeen years, had just arrived from Germany, and was sent here as a missionary. On the day of his arrival the congregation bought the lot on W. Cherry St. and constructed a cheap building. This building served the church services until 1873,

when a new edifice was erected on the same lot.

Primitive Methodist Church was organized in April, 1872, by Rev. Chas. Spurr at Robbins Hall. In 1873 they commenced the erection of a church on the corner of Jardin and Oak Sts., and the cornerstone was laid in August, 1873. The building was completed at a cost of about \$4,000 and it was dedicated May 17, 1874.

St. Casimir's Catholic Church (Polish). The first religious services conducted in the Polish language in this part of the county were commenced in 1872 and held in the German Catholic Church by Father Audreas Stupinski. There were nearly 300 members. In 1874 this society erected a place of worship on North Jardin St. at a cost of \$400. They held their meetings here. Father Stupinski remained until 1877 and was followed by Rev. Jos. Lenarkiewicz from Philadelphia through whom the church was soon comfortably finished both inside and outside.

Trinity Reformed Church was a mission under the care of the Lebanon Classis. It was organized in 1874 with a small membership. Rev. E. D. Miller was its first pastor holding religious services in Robbins Hall. In 1875, the congregation having increased, they built the brick edifice on W. Lloyd St., and it was occupied in Feb. 1876.

THE GREAT FIRE

November 12, 1883, marked an epoch in the History of Shenandoah, because from the ashes of destruction arose the spirit of Progress and Modernism.

On that fatal day a serious conflagration, originating in the United States Hotel, the leading hostelry

of the town, resulted in appalling destruction of property.

It was the noon hour when the dreaded alarm sounded; a great flame of fire, visible for miles, shot skyward and with incredible rapidity spread in all directions, overcoming every preventive measure, and leaving utter ruin and destruction in its wake.

The weather was intensely cold. A biting north wind, lowering clouds and snow flurries contributed to the suffering and discomfort of the afflicted families. The wailing of women, the cries of little children, the shouts of men, some commiserating their own lot, others that of relatives, added to the horror of the scene.

The fire burned with unabated fury until night fall, when nothing remained but the smouldering ruins of what had been, a few hours previous, substantial business houses and comfortable homes.

Hundreds of families rendered homeless saw the accumulation of years of thrift and frugality swept away with one stroke. The inhabitants of the borough were prostrated, and the country generally shocked by the catastrophe.

From all parts came a spontaneous demonstration of sympathy. Generous contributions of money, food and clothing poured in to supply the wants and needs of the victims. Public schools, municipal buildings, and private homes were thrown open, and shelter and accommodations afforded the destitute families.

Scarcely had the smoke cleared and the smouldering embers died out when plans were laid for the rebuilding of the destroyed area, with structures of a more durable character. Thus the foundation of modern Shenandoah took form.

Its phenomenal growth, metropolitan shops, excellent transportation facilities, etc., place it in the front ranks of progressive towns and attest the energy and enterprising spirit of its citizens.

FROM 1883 TO 1933

Shenandoah is the largest town in Schuylkill County. Since it was incorporated as a borough, it has grown rapidly and is today a thriving, busy, industrial centre.

The borough of Shenandoah possesses many features of interest since the great fire of 1883. The summer of 1884 was the busiest in the history of the town, as rebuilding began early, taxing the resources of all engaged in the building trades late into the winter. Many of the frame buildings were replaced by brick ones which are still existing today.

The town is located in the heart of the middle anthracite field of Penna. It is within overnight shipping distance of all the primary eastern markets.

The average altitude of Shenandoah is 1300 feet above sea level. This, together with its geographical location results in moderate, even temperature. The heating costs are low because of the abundant supply of good anthracite.

The Shenandoah basin is comparatively shallow, with a gentle south dip and a steep north one, the latter at times being overturned so that it appears as a south dip. Some miles west of Shenandoah, the rise of this basin brings its bottom to the surface and it ends there, but again appears further to the west. This field is especially well developed.

The population of Shenandoah is composed of representatives of nearly every European nation, chief among those being Irish, Polish, Lithuanian, Italian, Hebrew, Rus-

sian, German, Slavonian, Greek and Welsh. In 1890 it was the most populous town in Schuylkill County with a population of 15,944. In 1900 Shenandoah had a population of 20,231 while in 1910 the census was 25,774, and in 1915 it increased to about 27,500. At the present time a conservative estimate of the population is about 21,716. Including the Shenandoah Heights it is about 25,000. The chief cause of the large decrease in several wards is due to the fact that 3,000 people now living in Shenandoah Heights formerly lived in Shenandoah. In reality, the population is intact, but moved across the borough line into West Mahanoy Twp. Twenty-two nationalities are represented in the public schools.

The area covered by the houses in Shenandoah is about one mile square, so that the density of population is equal to that of large cities. All available building sites have been taken up, and if there had been twice as much ground it would have been all taken up and covered with dwellings and diversified industries which at various times desired to locate here but could not owing to lack of room.

Mining Principal Occupation

Mining is the principal occupation of the people. Most of the nationalities represented here, readily adapt themselves to American ideas and customs; and promptly become citizens of the country. These people are a good laboring class; they acquire property, identify themselves with political and social organizations, establish and maintain comfortable homes, and assume prominent relations in governmental affairs. Many of the municipal officers past and present, as well as a majority of the business people of the town, are persons of foreign birth. The language, the social, do-

mestic and religious customs and the general environments are transported from the countries represented but are readily changed into American customs.

The extensive mining interests have given prominence and wealth to the place, and the entire business of the town is dependent upon this industry for its support. Though the altitude of the town is comparatively high, the borough is located in a valley surrounded by rugged mountains and these are penetrated by the coal collieries which give employment to thousands of people. Over 8500 persons are employed in and about the mines which are operated by the following companies: Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Co., Lehigh Valley Coal Company, Weston Dodson Company, Madeira Hill Coal Co., and the Susquehanna Collieries Co.

The introduction of improved machinery and labor-saving devices in the mines, and the sanitary conditions and life-saving appliances have now made this industry much safer.

A careful, intelligent supervision under the state laws and legally selected and appointed public officials, was inaugurated many years ago, and now every mine, whether large or small, is visited at stated periods by the mine inspectors, a corps of state officials whose familiarity with mining in all its minutest details renders them eligible to the position. In addition, to these precautionary measures, trusty and competent men are selected upon examination as to their competency as foremen and superintendents, and a trained hospital corps is employed in the mines to render "first aid to the injured."

Electrical appliances are being installed in many of the mines and

these minimize the danger from gas explosions. These appliances are also used in hauling and in doing certain classes of mining work.

The annual reports of the mine inspectors to the Chief of the Department of Mines of the State, include all of the details in relation to the condition of each mine. The installation of each new machine is noted together with the extension of tunnels or the abandonment of workings, and the reason for the changes in all operations. The record includes the names of all persons injured or killed, the manner in which the accidents occur, the nationality of the victims, whether married or single, the condition of the mines with relation to the presence of gas and the methods employed to obviate its effects; the number of cubic feet of air supplied to each man and the means employed to supply it, and all details regarding the workings of every mine whether above ground or below the surface. The well trained professors of the Mining Night School of the borough supply this information to the attending miners.

The department of mines was established by act of assembly, approved April 14, 1903, though an official mine supervision has existed in the state since 1870.

The United Mine Workers of America is the officially recognized miners' union on the North American Continent. It is chartered by the American Federation of Labor. The United Mine Workers of America has a contract with the anthracite operators for the benefit of its members. It was first organized under the able leadership of the late John Mitchell. It has helped the miners in several ways, by obtaining for them shorter hours, increased wages and general improvement in the conditions of labor.

A general strike took place in 1902, this, apparently, being a year of universal labor troubles in the anthracite and later bituminous coal regions. Recognition of the Miners' Union by the operators was one of the vital points of consideration. The Miners' Union bore upon its rolls a greater number of contributing members than any other labor organization in the world.

During this strike a coal famine ensued, and factories were obliged to shut down, while the culm piles were worked over for much needed fuel. Conflicts were of frequent occurrence between the opposing forces. The adoption of a scale for three years satisfactory to the miners, ended the strike April, 1903. Peace then reigned until April 1, 1906, when another strike ensued. Many of the foreign class of people from this region returned to their native countries. A general depression of all lines of trade settled in the mining districts. John Mitchell, the official head of the Miners' Organization counseled peace by having the agreement signed in New York May 7, 1906 by several of the official men of the union and of the mining companies.

Locust Mt. Colliery

One of the recent collieries was the Locust Mountain Colliery. Thos. Baird, while superintendent of Kehley Run Colliery prevailed upon the officials of the Thomas Coal Co. to permit him to tunnel into the mountain in search of the Lykens Valley seam, which he contended existed under the seams being worked at the colliery, farther under the hill, but as the amount appropriated for the exploration became exhausted he was compelled to stop the work and died without any knowledge of the vast deposits hidden farther back.

A few years ago the Shenandoah Water and Gas Company in boring an artesian well with a view to increasing the water supply in a very dry summer, drilled through a seam of coal above their upper dam. near the crest of the mountain, which was sixteen feet in thickness. As water from the coal measures was not desirable operations were stopped at that point and the drills were moved a half or three-fourths of a mile to the southeast, where the search proved more successful from that company's viewpoint.

The find of coal, however, was followed up by the Girard Estate officials with extensive drilling operations, the result of which was that a surprisingly large bed of excellent coal was located, which it was estimated would yield about 8,000,000 tons of marketable coal.

The lease was awarded to the late Baird Snyder, representing Bethlehem and Philadelphia capitalists, at a higher royalty than had ever before been paid in the region.

Mr. Snyder formed a company, which he called the Locust Mountain Coal Co., and the colliery was called the Weston. Work was begun in November, 1912, and the first coal was run through the breaker on April 8, 1914. Unfortunately, Mr. Snyder, who gave his undivided attention to the operation, did not live to see the fruition of his plans, having met his death in an automobile accident near Wapwallopen, while on his way to Wilkes Barre, July 9, 1913.

The operation consisted of a tunnel driven into the mountain near Brownsville and extensive strip-pings on top of the mountain, which have changed the face of nature so that this locality would hardly be recognized by those who knew it years ago. Numerous steam shovels, ten locomotives and dozens of dump

cars have excavated a wide and deep ditch, exposing a magnificent bed of coal, which, when loosened by light charges of explosives, was scooped up by huge steam shovels into cars, which were hauled about one mile to the top of a self-acting plane, down which they were lowered to the breaker, where the coal was prepared for market. It was the only operation hereabouts where hoisting the coal was not necessary as the tunnel is also on a level with the top of the breaker, and where there was no expense to get rid of water, which is such a heavy charge at most collieries. This colliery employed a number of workers until May 1, 1933, its operation had to cease on account of all the coal being mined. The first officials of the Locust Mountain Coal Co. were: B. H. Stockett, Supt.; C. H. King, Outside Foreman; Geo. Thomas, Inside Foreman; Peter Klitsch, Breaker Boss; Wm. Thomas, Chief Clerk.

Weston Coal Co.

July 16, 1933 the Weston Coal Co. was organized and is now purchasing coal from Packer No. 5 of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. for its breaker. The officials are: J. D. Lewis, Supt.; Chas. H. King, who recently died was Inside and Outside Foreman; N. M. Stickler, Chief Clerk.

Kehley Run Colliery

About 1904 the Kehley Run Colliery was acquired by the Madeira-Hill interests, who operated it under the title of the Thomas Colliery Co., and put up a washery and made many changes to the breaker in order to increase its daily output. They also controlled the Oxford Washery at William Penn, and have long engaged in washing the banks left by the old William Penn Coal Co. as they have also done at the Stanton Colliery at Mahanoy Plane, which they operated under the name of the Brookwood Coal Co.

Wm. Penn Colliery

On Jan. 1st, 1899, the Susquehanna Coal Co., one of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company's coal mining companies, acquired possession of the William Penn Colliery and operated it successfully. Mr. Lewis remained in charge of it. He was later succeeded by Robert Quinn, who was general manager of Susquehanna's vast interests. As the colliery had been in active operation for a number of years and many millions of tons of coal had been extracted, Mr. Quinn found it advisable to seek a new opening to keep up the production and accordingly began sinking the present shaft which is about a fourth of a mile southwest of the one which saw such long service. This slope was completed in 1902 and is still in use when the mines are working. The breaker, which was first located on the Philadelphia and Reading tracks, was transferred to the new shaft. A new breaker was built there to which the Pennsylvania Railroad extended its tracks and the old breaker was torn down.

In 1912 the breaker was practically rebuilt under the administration of Supt. Van Horn. He also had the boiler house rebuilt of re-enforced concrete and also the colliery shops and three fan houses. At this time the company's dwelling houses had been materially improved. The colliery's capacity was 1200 tons per day or about 300,000 tons per annum, which was obtained from the shaft, two drifts and three large stripping operations.

It was claimed that the Susquehanna Coal Co. was first to adopt the "Safety First" slogan, and has carried out its beneficent purpose, in preventing accidents and the saving of life and limb of those who toil in the mines.

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

The growth of the anthracite business was such that the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. found it advisable, in order to supply its trade to open additional mines and No. 3 Colliery at Brownsville, named after Col. Brown was opened under Col. Brown's administration. Later No. 4 Colliery was built under the supervision of Supt. Rickert and that followed by No. 5 Colliery under the efficient management of Supt. Heffner.

Charles Grumm is the superintendent of the Wm. Penn Colliery at the present time; Mr. N. Harrison, the Supt. of West Shenandoah Colliery; John W. Price of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co.; Mr. Lovell is the superintendent of the Gap.

During the depression, the collieries have been closed and work suspended at times, but at present conditions are better and many collieries are opened again.

More than 2,500,000 tons of coal were mined in Shenandoah from June 1, 1930 to Nov. 1, 1930.

Borough Officials

The borough of Shenandoah is governed by a Chief Burgess and fifteen councilmen. The Police Department, the Board of Health, the Borough Water Commissioners, and the Board of Education efficiently assist in governing the borough.

In 1884 the Chief Burgess was D. J. Williams, and the Councilmen were: Patrick Sheehy, Pres.; John J. Cardin, Secy.; John T. Thomas, John Schultz, T. J. Hurley, John Hughes, E. W. Amour, Timothy Miles, Patrick Ormsby, John Nolan, T. J. James, John J. Toole, Abraham Lang, T. R. Beddall, M. J. Whalen, B. J. Yost. Treasurer, P. J. Ferguson and Solicitor, J. H. Pomeroy, Esq.

In 1914, the Chief Burgess was W. J. Brown; Pres., Thomas Purcell;

Secy., Frank Hanna; Treas., Thos. Bennett; Solicitor, M. M. Burke, Esq.; Councilmen, Martin Petkus, George Ringheiser, Enoch Makowski, H. G. Heilner, Harry Reeves, Thos. Purcell, J. F. Eisenhower, Robert Patterson, George Harris, Frank Szalick, W. J. Stanton, Chas. Magalingo, Patrick Walsh, P. F. Broderick, Edw. Rooney.

In 1932, the Chief Burgess was Jos. T. Sepauley; Clerk, A. F. Schlitzer; Treas., Harry Rubinsky; Commissioner of Highways, James Doyle; Solicitor, Martin M. Burke, Esq.; High Constable, Stanley Pastula; Tax Receiver, J. V. Tierney; Electrician, Wm. Purcell; Chief of Police, John Maher; Milk Inspector, the late Jas. J. Smith; Councilmen, Pres., Joseph Popalis; Chas. Anthonawicz, John Sullivan, Martin Hobbs, Jos. Snyder, Chas. Manilla, John Young, Clarence Reeves, Barney Wentz, Peter Chaplinsky, Anthony Radzai, Andrew Baraniak, Edw. Murphy, Bloddie Derringe, Jas. Tierney.

In 1934, the borough government consisted of Chief Burgess Jos. T. Sepauley; Secretary, A. F. Schlitzer; Solicitor, Luther B. Edwards; Highway Commissioner, Geo. Mozdyniewicz; Foreman, Michael Danowski; trucks, Jos. Scarfo and Jos. Twardzik; Janitor, Frank Graham; roller operators, John Lawson and John Perlinskie; janitress, Mrs. Sarah Hughes; dumpmen, Thos. Reeves and Thos. McDonald; borough hands, Cap. Walsh, John Panzallo, Wm. Yadusky, Patrick Walsh, Harry McDonald, Irvin Klein, John Neskiewicz, Alfred Baker, William Tomcavage and John Bogdan. The Police Department consisted of: The Chief of Police, Jos. Gorney; other members, lieutenant, Stanley Dobrowsalskie; sergeants, Dominick Za-

vaglia, Bernard Galitsky, Frank Danowski; patrolmen, Wm. G. Taylor, Clayton Tempest, Jos. Horan, Jos. Jevelle, John Dietrich, Wm. Ryan, borough electrician, Elmer Sneddon. Miss Annie B. Schaeffer was re-elected borough treasurer. The borough had the following councilmen for 1934: Charles Manilla, Martin Hobbs, Eugene Sweet, Clarence Reeves, Michael Mozdyniewicz, John Schaeffer, John Galitsky, Jos. Bruzzese, Jos. Popalis, Anthony Radzai, James Tierney, John Sullivan, John Glaudel, Edw. Cuff and Edw. Murphy.

Locust Mt. Hospital

The community health is carefully looked after. The Locust Mt. Hospital at Shenandoah Heights is well-staffed and serves the needs of the borough. It was opened April 6, 1926. Dr. H. H. Holderman was the first surgeon-in-chief. The whole community grieved over the death of this most capable doctor, which occurred in an automobile accident, while on the way to Phila. to render his assistance to save one of the prominent members of the community. Dr. La Barre is the present surgeon-in-chief.

Borough

The local Board of Health vigorously insists upon the observance of sanitary measures. Dr. J. S. Monahan is the president of the Board of Health at the present time, while Thos. Betteridge is the secretary.

Free garbage and ash service and a complete sewage system are provided.

The school district employs a doctor, a full time nurse, and several teachers of health and physical education for the benefit of the children and students of the bor-

ough. An adequate athletic field is also provided by the school district and a comprehensive program of health education is carried on.

There are miles of improved, well-lighted and paved streets.

The Water Supply

The borough has an abundant supply of pure water, which is supplied by two companies; one, the borough owned water works, and the other, a privately owned company.

The Citizens' Water and Gas Co. was incorporated in the spring of 1870 and is still in existence while the other is the Commissioners of Water Works.

The water supply is brought from mountain springs and reservoirs. The quality of the water is unsurpassed.

The officers of the borough water department for 1934 were: Supt. John Hobbs; assistant supt., John Stanton; meter repairman, Tony Carpino; meter reader, Frank Reilly; valve man, Leo Bronk; secretary, Dorothy Reeves; pumpmen, Jack Fulmer, Reese Thomas; foreman, Chas. Franks; laborers, Jos. Dollance, Fred Grumm and John Clancy.

Heat and Light Companies

The borough also has excellent heating and lighting facilities, corporations having been formed at an early date to promote these interests.

The Shenandoah Gas Light Co. was organized in 1884 and the Citizens' Electric Light Co. came into existence in April, 1887, and in the same year the Shenandoah Electric Illuminating Company was organized.

At present only the one company, the Pennsylvania Power and Light Co. supplies the borough with heat and light, its main office be-

ing located at the corner of Main and Oak Sts.

The Shenandoah Manufacturing Co. was incorporated in February, 1893, for the purpose of making hats, caps and clothing. The capital stock was \$25,000. When operating at a full capacity, one hundred and fifty people were employed. This company has ceased to operate. Besides the coal industries now there are various factories employing approximately 1500 persons. Among them are several cigar factories, several shirt factories and the Miller's Underwear factory, John J. Miller, of 213 North White St., is the owner and manager.

THE SHENANDOAH PRESS

The Shenandoah Press has kept pace with the growth and development of the town. The Shenandoah Herald was the first paper started in the borough. In 1883, the entire plant, including the Mining Herald, was destroyed by fire. In 1888 it was again started by Henry C. Boyer and J. S. Kirkwood, the latter retiring in 1890.

Many improvements have been made, both in mechanical and news departments. A new building was erected, suitable for the housing of a newspaper plant of the standing which the Herald now enjoys. The basement of the building, extending its entire length, is devoted exclusively to the Herald's press. The first story is occupied by the business offices and mailing department in the front, while in the rear is the composing room and job department. The second floor is devoted to the storing of stock and miscellaneous work.

The Herald's rapid growth necessitated the purchase of the improved typesetting machinery

which can set as much "matter" as five men can set by hand.

A perfecting press was also purchased. This reduced the tedious press hours by more than half and doubled the output.

The Herald is subscriber to the United Press and the American Press associations.

Chas. T. Straughn is the managing editor, president and treasurer of the Evening Herald Printing Co. at the present time.

The Sunday News was published for a number of years by Jas. H. Deitrich and Philip Keck, but it has been discontinued. Then it was published as an independent paper by Doyle Brothers. The Weekly Advocate was started in 1894 by Holland and Moyer. The News Budget was published by Hess Brothers. M. E. Doyle was the editor and publisher of the Anthracite Labor News, started in 1903, in the interests of the laboring man. In September, 1905, the Daily Times was launched from the press and office of the Labor News. Mr. McLaughlin was the editor.

Besides the Polish and Lithuanian papers, the borough now has one daily paper, the Evening Herald, and three weekly papers, The Advocate, The Miners Weekly, the News Budget and the Torch, which is the monthly publication of the J. W. Cooper High School.

22 CHURCHES IN BOROUGH

There are twenty-two churches in the borough: All Saints Episcopal Church; the Cavalry Baptist; First Baptist; First Congregational; First Presbyterian; Holy Family, Roman Catholic Church; Holy Ghost; Kehelath Israel; Methodist Episcopal; Our Lady of Mercy, Roman Catholic Church; Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Roman Catholic Church; Primitive

Methodist; Russian Orthodox; St. Casimir's Polish, Roman Catholic Church; St. George's Lithuanian, Roman Catholic Church; St. John's Lutheran Church; St. Stanislaus Polish, Roman Catholic Church; St. Stephen's, Slovack, Roman Catholic Church; Salvation Army; Trinity Reformed Church; and St. Michael's, Greek Catholic Church.

St. Michael's Church

St. Michael's Church was the first Greek Catholic Church erected in the United States. It was established in 1884. The first pastor was Rev. John Wolansky, who was sent here by the metropolitan of the United Greek Catholic Church, Archbishop of Lemburg, to provide for the spiritual wants of people of that faith. Father Wolanski was an able man and soon had the building on West Centre St. ready for services. Father Wolanski remained for several years, when he was recalled to more important duties in Austria.

Father Wolanski was succeeded by Rev. Constantine Andruchovic, who remained here only a short time and was succeeded by Rev. Cornelius Lauresin, who remained several years, during which time the congregation grew too large for the building. The Grant residence at Oak and Chestnut Sts. was purchased and the present handsome church of Byzantine style of architecture was erected thereon. The Rev. Leo Lewicki had been pastor for several years, beginning his duties before the erection of the present church. The present pastor of the church is Rev. Ortynsky, who has ably filled his duties for several years.

St. Casimir's Church

When St. Casimir's Church was organized, the Lithuanian people attended religious services with the

Polish people. As the number increased considerably, they organized a separate congregation in 1389. They held their services in Gorman's hall on N. Main St. The congregation at the start numbered about 1500 people and the Rev. Peter Abromaitis was their first pastor. In June, 1891, the present site was purchased from Jas. B. Lessig, and work upon the erection of the church began promptly and completed in 1892. Josiah W. Johnson was the contractor and the building was of frame. In 1902 the building was rebuilt of brick, which was done without interrupting the services. In 1907 extensive alterations were made and a chime of twelve bells and a large pipe organ were also installed. The church was dedicated and the bells and organ were blessed to the service of God on Jan. 1, 1908, by the Rev. Matthias Yuodiscious, of New York, who had been delegated by Archbishop Ryan to perform the service.

Father Abromaitis served as pastor until 1908, when he was transferred to Mahanoy City. The Rev. Anthony Milukas was appointed pastor in June, 1908 and served until December following, being succeeded in January, 1909, by the Rev. Albinus J. Kaminsky, who continued until 1911, when he was succeeded by Rev. Simon Pautienius.

The mural decorations, consisting of paintings of Biblical scenes, were done by a young Lithuanian artist named Francis Bogden, a graduate of the Academy of Fine Arts, at Petrograd, Russia. They have attracted many visitors to the church.

Shortly after the organization of the parish, Dec. 14, 1891, the parish purchased three acres of land from the Girard Estate for a cemetery. In 1900 two additional acres were purchased and in 1909 the cemetery was enlarged by the acquisition of seven

acres more. The congregation numbers about 4,000 people or more. The present pastor is Rev. J. A. Karalius, who ably serves this large congregation and who is assisted by Rev. A. Alauskas.

Slavonian Church

In 1898, the Slavonian Roman Catholic residents, who had been organized into a congregation some time previously, purchased the building formerly used by the Episcopalians for a church, which the latter had vacated and sold earlier in the year. Prior to that time the members had attended services in St. Casimir's Church. The Slavonian people held their services in the Davidson building on N. Main St., until the church building was purchased and fitted up to their requirements. Father Blossack, was the first pastor. He was succeeded by Rev. J. Kasparek. Rev. Boravac was a pastor here also, succeeded by a few others later, until Rev. Joseph Horacek came here. He is a very brilliant pastor, well liked by all nationalities. This congregation numbers about 100 families.

St. Stanislaus Church

The Polish population of the town increased so rapidly that St. Casimir's Church became overcrowded and it was necessary to form another Polish congregation, known as St. Stanislaus Polish Roman Catholic Church.

Upon its organization the services were conducted for some time in the basement of St. George's Lithuanian Church. They purchased the building at the corner of Cherry and West Sts. from the Evangelicals. This building was razed and the present brick structure erected on the site. The church was dedicated to the service of God in 1904, with Archbishop Simon, of Rome, pre-

siding at the ceremonies, and also blessing the three large bells which call the faithful to worship.

The first rector was the Rev. M. Kopytkiewicz, followed afterward by the Revs. Matulaitis, Olesinski, Januszkiewicz, Homiek, Olesinski, Dombrowski and Rev. L. A. Stachowicz succeeded by Father Wroblewski who later left for Poland. Now this congregation is well looked after by Rev. Stephen J. Zmich, who during his presence erected the beautiful St. Stanislaus parochial school, at the corner of West and Cherry Sts.

Holy Family Church

The Holy Family Roman Catholic Church was established years ago. It is a German congregation. During the rectorship of Rev. Francis Holtgrieve the church had been practically rebuilt. This congregation has its own parochial school. It is now served by Rev. Wm. D. Bruckmann, S. T. L., who is greatly esteemed by his people and all who know him.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church

The Italian Church of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is situated on West Washington St. The church was dedicated by the late Right Rev. John J. McCort, Auxiliary Bishop of Phila., Aug. 2, 1914, in the presence of a large number of Italians and other people. The building is a frame structure. Father Attenni was their first pastor, who had been succeeded by other pastors and now the pastorate is served by Rev. Jos. Megna.

Our Lady of Mercy Church

The Church of Our Lady of Mercy was dedicated Dec. 6, 1914, as a house of worship for the Syrians of Shenandoah. It is located on South West St., opposite the Jefferson school. Although the smallest house

of worship in the town, it is neat and large enough for the present congregation. Father Sion was the first rector, who was later succeeded by Father Sayegh, who is esteemed by all who know him and who is the present pastor.

Church of the Annunciation

The erection of a new church of the Annunciation was begun in July 1914, and proved to be a task of large size. The corner stone was laid on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26, 1914, by the Right Rev. John J. McCort, auxiliary Bishop of Phila. The new building was completed in 1915. It is of the Roman Style of architecture and is built in the form of a cross. Father Norton, the pastor, was ably assisted in his parish work and in the building operations by Rev. F. L. Hannigan, Rev. R. J. Branton, Rev. Jos. M. O'Hara, Rev. M. A. Crane, and his capable assistants Rev. Geo. P. Boyle and Rev. Jos. A. Hayes.

Then the beautiful edifice of the Annunciation congregation was destroyed by fire in 1925. Father Dev-ers, the pastor, and who also erected a beautiful parochial school, began to build a temporary church in which the congregation now worships. Father Cornelius O'Brien is the present pastor, and is ably assisted by Fathers Gallagher, McGarity and Twohig.

The Annunciation High School is the only Catholic Parochial High School in the borough.

St. Casimir's Polish Church

The St. Casimir's Roman Catholic Church was the first Polish Church erected in this region. Father J. Alexis Lenarkiewicz was pastor of this parish for twenty-five years, dying in 1903. He was succeeded by Rev. Joseph Biela, Rev. M. Monkiewicz,

Rev. J. Goorich, D. D., Rev. M. Koputkiewicz, Rev. J. Dabrowski, and the present pastor, Rev. John Mickun, who has been here since June 3, 1921. The old church having become too small for the constantly growing congregation, it was torn down and a handsome brick structure was erected on the site. It was made considerably larger, extending the full length of the lot from Jardin St. to Ferguson St. The corner stone was laid with appropriate ceremonies Sunday, Oct. 11, 1914, and work was pushed as speedily as possible. Since then it has had many improvements added to it. A \$12,000 organ was installed. The repainting of the church in 1929 cost \$20,000. It is one of the largest and most beautiful churches in the anthracite region.

At present there are about 6,000 people belonging to this congregation, and over 1,000 pupils attending the St. Casimir's Parochial School. St. Casimir's Church is the sixth oldest Polish Church in the United States. This year Rev. Mickun is assisted by Rev. B. Zywicki and Rev. J. Gaj.

United Evangelical Church

During 1895 and 1896 the United Evangelical services were held in Dougherty's Hall, at the southeast corner of Centre and Jardin Sts., by Rev. Reitz as pastor. In 1896, the building now occupied on North Jardin St. was purchased from the English Lutherans, as that congregation had disbanded. The Rev. Reitz was pastor for three years and was succeeded by Reverends Hensyl, Scheifley, Harper, Dissinger, Mengel and Rev. S. J. Sumpman. Most of the members of this congregation have now joined the Trinity Reformed Church.

St. John's Lutheran Church

St. John's Lutheran Church on West Cherry St. is one of the early erected and organized congregations. In 1895, the church had to be remodeled, new pews, altar, pulpit, steam heat and lecturn were installed, the main stairway altered considerably, the walls and ceiling decorated, new carpet was laid and the exterior of the building painted. The rededication took place on Sunday, Nov. 25, the Revs. Hausmann, Bock, Leopold and Umbenhen delivering the sermons and addressing the congregation and Sunday School. Another event noteworthy in its history was the 25th jubilee celebration of Pastor Gruhler, in 1896. In 1901, he resigned and was succeeded by Rev. Cyrus E. Held, who served until November, 1910, when he accepted a call to Sumneytown, Pa. During his service, stained glass windows and a pipe organ were installed. In 1911, Rev. John Schmieder became pastor and during his pastorate the church was again renovated at an expense of over \$3,000. The present pastor is Rev. F. R. Edwards, who has succeeded the late Rev. Stanley Wentz.

Congregational Church

The Rev. Miss B. Slavinski was sent to take charge of the Congregational Church and since her arrival new life has been infused into the congregation, much of the debt has been paid and many repairs to the Church building and parsonage have been made.

Calvary Baptist Church

In 1894 the English Baptist Church was enlarged and the name was changed to Calvary Baptist Church. In December, 1906 the interior of the church was greatly beautified by metal casing, new electric lights,

cathedral glass windows and steam heating plant. Some of the pastors were: Revs. D. C. Bixby, W. Guest, H. G. Mames, Russel Harrison, R. R. Albin, D. S. Thomas and N. C. Naylor and the Rev. R. Morgan.

Jewish Synagogue

The founding of the Keheleth Israel Congregation on Oct. 9, 1887, marked an important epoch in the history of the Hebrew race located in Shenandoah. The congregation held services for a number of years in the Dunlap Building. In 1892, the synagogue was erected on West Oak St. Some of their Rabbis were: Rabbis Mendelsohn, Alpert, Mitnick, Rosenbloom, Myerson, and Rabbi Dr. H. G. Slatt, Rabbi Isaac Werlin and Rabbi Nathan Vainstein.

Methodist Church

The new building of the Methodist Church cost \$16,500 and was dedicated Dec. 7, 1886, by the Rev. Bishop, E. G. Andres and the Rev. Dr. Swindells. Rev. Coffman was the pastor at that time. He was succeeded by Rev. John Stringer, Rev. Eli Pickersgill, Rev. Wm. Powick, Rev. J. F. Meredith, Rev. Alfred Heebner, Rev. J. T. Swindells, and Rev. O. E. Stogden. In 1893, 990 persons had been received into the church. In 1902 the Rev. Dr. G. W. Dungan served as a pastor for four years and he was succeeded by Rev. G. W. Sheetz. The Rev. W. I. Reed followed in 1909 and preached with unusual power and popularity during his three years. In 1912, the Rev. Chas. Roads was appointed and during his pastorate the social rooms were built, the church more thoroughly organized and social service work begun. The Sunday School has had many able superintendents in the persons of B. F. Crawshaw, Horace E. Dengler, Thos. Reese, Dr. H. M. Wasley and now Dr. J. S.

Callen. It now holds the "Advanced Front Line" certificate from the state association. The church now has a Ladies' Aid Society, a Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, a Men's Social Union, a Jr. League, a Christian Endeavor Society and a Children's Church service regularly. The membership is probably larger now than ever in the long history of the church. Rev. Samuel R. Douf is the present pastor.

Presbyterian Church

The fire of 1883 destroyed the Presbyterian Church and all their records. But they set diligently to work to replace the frame structure, by a brick one of larger proportion. The Chapel part of the new building was completed in the autumn of 1884. In December, 1886, the Rev. D. M. Hazlett was made pastor of the church, the Rev. F. Kolb having resigned the March previous. The building was dedicated July 3, 1887. The Rev. D. M. Hazlett resigned in May, 1888. He was succeeded by James W. Wicker in the fall of the same year, and he continued the pastor until in April of 1891. In the fall of 1891 the Rev. William McNally took charge for one year. In 1893 Rev. T. Maxwell Morrison took charge. He was followed by Rev. W. Harvey Koehler, Rev. Chas Edwards, Rev. Wm. Buchanan, Rev. G. W. Mingins and Rev. C. E. Cooper. At the present time the congregation has no permanent pastor.

All Saints Episcopal

About 1887, a lot was purchased on East Oak St. and in 1888 the corner stone of the All Saints Episcopal Church was laid. The next year the church, the one now used by the Slavonic congregation, was opened for public worship. The present property, at the corner of Oak and West Sts., was acquired in

1896. Rev. G. W. Van Fossen served as rector. The services were held in the basement of the church until the completion of the church proper. The work was finished in 1905 during the pastorate of the Rev. Erksine Wright and was then used for worship for the first time. All Saints Church has had many rectors during its existence. The present rector, the Rev. John Porter Briggs, has been pastor of the church for almost twenty-four years.

Primitive Methodist

The Primitive Methodist Church erected a new parsonage on West Oak St. in the rear of the church in 1885. The Rev. Wm. H. Acornley came from England in 1884, and was appointed by the Conference to succeed Rev. Harvey. In 1885, the Rev. Stephen Hancock was appointed pastor. His ministry extended over a period of five years. Under his pastorate the church was remodeled and other improvements were made. The Rev. H. G. Russell, D. D., was the next pastor, serving three years, continuing the good work begun by his predecessor. The Rev. John Bath followed, serving from 1893 to 1897. The Rev. James Moore, 1897 to 1902, met marked success during his five years of ministry, and keen were the regrets when he departed to take up work in another field. The Rev. J. G. Jeffreys, the next pastor, served from 1902 to 1905, during which time a pipe organ was installed at a cost of \$1,500. The Rev. Albert Clegg succeeded, serving from 1906 to 1907, and the Rev. Thomas Wilson from 1907 to 1910. During this period the interior of the church was again remodeled at a cost of \$2,500. The Conference of 1910 sent Rev. W. H. Acornley again for a term of two years. From May, 1912,

to September of the same year the pulpit was supplied by visiting clergymen. The first Sunday of September, 1912, the Rev. Wesley Boyd began a ministry which has been a remarkable success up to the present day. The Rev. Boyd, who is a native of Ireland, studied for the ministry in the Methodist College in Belfast and the University of Dublin and is also a graduate of the Divinity School of London University.

The First Baptist Church

In January, 1890, the Rev. David Ivor Evans had assumed the duties as pastor of the First Baptist Church, succeeding the Rev. D. S. Thomas. During Rev. Evans' pastorate many changes have occurred, and today the congregation is vigorous and active under the pastorate of Rev. A. J. Cook.

Trinity Reformed

The Rev. W. D. Donat succeeded Dr. Stibitz in May, 1885, at the Trinity Reformed Church. Much aggressive work was done during his pastorate. Various societies were organized, a debt of \$1,100 on the church was paid, an Estey organ was purchased, the church was remodeled in 1888 at a cost of more than \$3,000. The Rev. Robert O'Boyle became pastor Oct. 1, 1891. During this pastorate, steam heat was installed, a new chandelier purchased, the Church repainted and improved. The parsonage at 108 N Jardin St., together with the rear dwelling on West St., was purchased. The Rev. O'Boyle ended his pastorate Dec. 31, 1898. The Rev. Z. A. Yearick, D. D., began his pastorate March 1, 1899. During his ministry, the church was extensively repaired in 1904 at a cost of \$500. The pipe organ was purchased in 1912, which

with changes and repairs to the church, cost \$2,000. It was four times recarpeted, mainly through the activity of the Ladies' Aid Society, at a cost of \$500. All these debts and expenses were paid during his pastorate. Rev. H. Spink was succeeded by the late Rev Laudenslager. Rev. John H. Sando is the present pastor. The church was rebuilt in 1932.

SCHOOL SYSTEM

An excellent system of public and parochial schools has been maintained in the borough. There are ten public schools, the J. W. Cooper High School, Junior High School, Jefferson School, Lincoln School, the Old White St. School, which is now used as an annex of the J. W. Cooper High School, Washington St. School, Jardin St. School, Union St. School, Turkey Run School, and the Woodrow Wilson School. There are four parochial schools: the Annunciation, St. Casimir's, St. Stanislaus and the Holy Family. A free public library and a commercial library are available and well patronized.

On May 4, 1884, Professor Bartch refused to accept another term as superintendent of the public schools and was succeeded by Prof. L. A. Freeman. May 6, 1885, the old brown school house on West Lloyd St. was torn down and bids were received for the erection of a two-story twelve-room building on Lloyd St. At the same time another building was erected on Union St. The two buildings cost \$13,500. They were completed Nov. 16, 1885. A part of the frame work of the old brown school house was used in constructing the Union St. building.

The teachers for the term of 1885 were: Wm. Cather, Ray Fowler. Bridget Burns, Ida Kolb, Annie Roxby, Lizzie McKernan, Annie Dean, Ellen Golden, Minnie Kimmel, Annie McGurl, Clara Cline, Annie Coogan, Mary Wasley, Jennie Goho, Annie Mansell, Eliza F. Finnerty, Mary A. Lafferty, Maternus F. Albert, Amelia Schoener, Elizabeth O'Connell, Annie Kimmel, Robena Glover, Maggie Cavanaugh, Mary Wolley, Lizzie Lessig, Henry Bierman, Maggie Lawlor, Estella Kern, Mahala Fairchild, Anna Dengler, Laura Hoskins, Lydia Eisenhower, W. N. Ehrhart, Principal.

The first public high school graduating exercises were held in Ferguson's Opera House, May 1, 1885. In January 1886 a school building in Turkey Run was completed. In 1888 the school board elected 44 teachers for that term and each succeeding year the number of teachers was increased.

In 1890, an addition was built to the Turkey Run school house. Jan. 16, 1893, fire destroyed part of the upper story of the high school building. The cost of repairing the damage was \$960, all covered by insurance. May 2, 1893, Prof. M. P. Whitaker was elected superintendent of the schools of the borough for three years. At about this time it was decided to build a six-room building on West St. at the rear of the Centre St. building which was done at a cost of about \$16,000. In 1893 Mr. Ehrhart resigned the principalship of the High School, and Mr. J. W. Cooper was elected to succeed him. Under the Act of May 18, 1893, the School Board furnished for the schools all text books and supplies to the pupils, free of charge for the first time, and has continued doing so since.

In 1897 J. W. Cooper was elected superintendent of the schools and

was re-elected at the close of every term until he died. He was succeeded in 1927 by Supt. A. J. Ratchford. There were 121 teachers in 1934; forty-one in the high schools and 80 in the elementary schools.

Aug. 19, 1927, A. J. Ratchford was elected superintendent to continue to carry on the good work of Supt. J. W. Cooper. Through the endeavors of Supt. Ratchford, the Washington Grammar School was converted into the present Junior High School; Girls and Boys Bands in the J. W. Cooper High School, Lincoln and Jefferson Schools were organized; also a Fife, Drum and Bugle Corps in the grade schools has been organized in a splendid manner. Field days and Health Queen Pageants have occupied a prominent place on the school calendar, as well as Patron's Day when parents meet teachers and work of the students is displayed and school problems discussed.

Memorial Park is a tribute to the foresight and energy of Supt. Ratchford who did much to complete this recreational field for the children of Shenandoah.

Within the last two years, four of the prominent teachers have resigned, J. R. Lewis, Principal of the J. W. Cooper High School, Misses Bridget Burns, Margaret Brennan and Eliza Finnerty. They are now on the retirement list. Their conscientious and untiring efforts have gained the respect of all the students.

Financial Organizations

Shenandoah has four National Banks and one Trust Company, five Building and Loan Associations, two Loan Companies, three hotels, three theatres, many restaurants and lunch rooms, over three hundred retail houses and fifteen wholesale firms.

The officers and directors of the Merchants National Bank, which is a member of the Federal Reserve System and Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., for 1934 were: Pres., T. F. Bradigan; Vice Pres., E. H. Ratzburg; Cashier, J. W. Hough, Asst. Cashier, P. C. Naylor; M. V. Monaghan, E. J. Wasley, Simon Gozinsky, C. J. Schmidt, Martin Ciszek, W. H. Zimmerman, M. S. Kistler, M. D., Jos. T. Sepauley, J. V. Tierney. This bank was organized in 1891.

The officers and directors of the Miners National Bank for the 1934 term were: John Bushek, P. H. Burke, J. F. Cleary, M. F. Giblon, P. J. Graham, E. O. Holderman, Maxim Kurilla, Harry Levit, Albin A. Meluskey, W. W. Williams, Jos. A. Zanecosky, and Julius Luschinsky.

The Citizens National Bank and the First National Bank are temporarily closed. They are expected to open for business again in a short time.

The Shenandoah Trust Co. was very unfortunate. Its depositors were paid a certain percentage of their deposits and eventually will get the remainder as the bank liquidates.

Three Theatres

The three theatres are: Strand on South Main St., the Lyric at the corner of Jardin and Centre Sts., and the Capitol on North Main St.

Transportation Facilities

The Reading, Pennsylvania and Lehigh Valley Railroads maintain passenger and freight stations in the borough providing splendid transportation facilities for shipper and passenger. Four bus companies also operate in Shenandoah: Lakes-to-Sea Bus Lines, Reading Transportation Company, Shenandoah Sub Bus Lines and the Shenandoah Heights Bus.

The Schuylkill Traction Co. was an outgrowth of what was known as the Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Girardville and Ashland Street Railway Company, which was incorporated in October, 1890. The first cars for the railway, four in number arrived at the Shenandoah depot of the Phila. and Reading Railroad on Feb. 2, 1892.

The first car was run over the line from the power house at Raphannock into and to the central part of Shenandoah on the afternoon of April 7, 1892. The passengers on this car were: Judge Sadler, of Carlisle; Hon. D. D. Phillips, Gordon; Hon. Elias Davis, Broad Mountain; McHenry Wilhelm, Esq., and W. C. Bright, Ashland; John Finney, H. C. Boyer, W. J. Watkins, J. J. Dougherty, J. J. Kelly, Councilman Phalen, Adam Mort, W. J. Evans, Hon. T. J. Higgins, Chief Burgess Smith, H. H. Zulick and George H. Krick, Shenandoah. The day following, 1,322 fares were collected on the line, although it had not been declared open, and on the following day 2,750 fares were collected. From that time on the patronage of the road increased rapidly and on May 9, following the opening of the road, 8,000 five cent fares were collected. At present there are no trolleys, the bus lines having taken their places.

Civic Organizations

The civic, fraternal and charitable organizations are numerous and active. Some of the organizations are: Red Cross, Boy Scouts, American Legion, Kiwanis Club, Rotary Club, Tuberculosis Society, Welfare League, Prevention of Cruelty to Children Society, Salvation Army, Crippled Children Society, Borough Council, Chamber of Commerce, Merchants Association, Union Locals, Eagles, Reindeers, Fire Companies, P. S. E. A., Teach-

ers' League, N. E. A., Elks, Moose, Knights of Columbus, Knights of Lithuania, Board of Education, National Society, Lithuanian Social Club, United Spanish War Veterans, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythians, Delphian Society, Masonic Lodge, Eastern Star, Veterans of Foreign Wars, School Clubs and Church Organizations. The inhabitants of the borough respond generously to all charitable appeals.

The Chamber of Commerce gladly lends assistance to any local industry in any expansion program anticipated by them, or will cheerfully cooperate with any outside corporation considering its location in Shenandoah. It will assist any business men and citizens in all movements concerning the welfare of Shenandoah.

Some of the prominent fraternal organizations are: The Fraternal Order of Eagles, chartered Jan. 13, 1901. The first president of this order was John Harle. The present officers are: Pres., Edward Breslin; Secy., Frank Raczkowski; Treas., Vincent Minewicz; Trustees, Joseph Brennan, John Shaner, and John Schwera.

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, organized in 1905 and chartered in 1914. The first Ex. Ruler, Harry Muldoon. The present officers are: Ex. Ruler, Bernard Leach; Treas., Cecil James; Secy., Frank Reilly; Trustees, Attorney F. F. O'Hare, C. F. Fowler and John B. Deitrich.

The Knights of Columbus, chartered in 1903. The present officers are: Pres., Edward Campbell; Secy., Thomas J. Horan; Treas., Raphael Brennan; Grand Knight, John Quigley.

The Loyal Order of Moose, chartered in 1912. The present officers are: Pres., Jack Bright; Vice Pres. Richard Clement; Prelate, Alex

Minkewicz; Treas., Patrick Scalan; Secy., Wm. Jones; Trustees, Phil. Hennessy, Walter Berlenback and Chas. Ecker.

The Knights of Pythian chartered June 8, 1889. The present officers are: C. Commander, Chas. Davis; V. C., Sam McCutcheon; Master at Arms, Tal Jones; Prelate, William Baker; Inner Guard, Ed. Kolonowski; Outer Guard, Chas. Gradwell; Keeper of Records and Seals, Chas. Fowler; Master of the Work, Harry Waters; Master of Finance, Wm. Holvey.

Six Fire Companies

Six fire companies provide ample fire protection and give Shenandoah low fire insurance rates.

The first fire company organized in Shenandoah was the Columbia Hose and Steam Fire Engine Co. No. 1. It now has 110 members. The present officers are: Pres., Harry Gibson; Vice Pres., Jos. Dower; Recording Secy., Wm. Jones; Financial Secy., Peter Franks; Treas., Peter Bauer; Marshal, Charles Bickelman; Foreman, Allan Brobst; Asst. Foreman, Michael Carey; Chief Engineer, Walter Sampsel; other Engineers, Harry Williams, Peter Franks, Michael Demmi, Dillman Jones; Chief Chauffeur, Leo Perrong; Asst. Chauffeurs, John Perrong, George Bickelman, Walter Voicheck, Patrick Dee, John Williams, Herbert Perrong, Joseph Dower, Edward Poska, Wm. Marnon, Harry Gibson, Peter Franks; Trustees, J. Schappei, D. Jones and Fred Herman; Stokers, Harry Horrell, Wm. Taylor, Albert Becker, Wm. Jones.

The Phoenix Fire Co. No. 2 was organized Aug. 15, 1885. The charter members were: B. J. Duffy, John B. Lovette, John M. Mack, J. J. Fahey, M. A. Monaghan, T. J. O'Brien, Thomas J. McKeone, J. J. Hines, John F. McKernan, E. J. McGinnis, Martin Kelley. The com-

pany was equipped with a combination wagon, supply wagon, hose reel, three dray wagons, two dump wagons, three cabs and seven head of horses. At present it is well equipped with fire trucks and best fire fighting apparatus. The company owns its own two-story brick and stone building on North Jardin St. The building is handsomely furnished and contains every convenience. The company has given the use of the rooms to the G. A. R., to be used as their meeting place, free of charge, as long as the order exists. The officers of today are: Pres., Edward J. Whalen; Vice Pres., Thomas Kennedy; Recording Secy., Daniel Bradley; Financial Secy., John Elliott; Treas., John J. Cantlin; Trustees, Robert Shore, F. Cooney, Thomas O'Hearn; Stewards, Robert Toomey, James Teeley; Foremen, John F. Fineran, Edward Murphy; Fire Marshal, Thos. O'Hearn.

The Defender Hose Co. with quarters at Turkey Run, was organized Aug. 14, 1895, and received a charter January 15, 1897. The company was admitted to the Firemen's Relief Association of Shenandoah in March 1899. The charter members were: John O'Neill, George Davis, David Howells, Jas. Birmingham, Jas. Toomey, Jos. Campbell, Bernard Monaghan, Thos. Britton, Benj. Jenkins, Jas. Burns, Michael Campbell, W. H. Davies, Henry Howells, Thos. Davis, Jos. Krapp, Patrick Quinn, Patrick McDevitt, Patrick Birmingham, Jas. Purcell, John Kropp, Geo. Thomas, Wm. Mundy, Benj. Sunderland, Peter Birmingham, John Davis, Josiah Matthias, Daniel Mundy, Wm. Howells, Michael Ratigan, John Purcell, Michael Redmond, Thos. Campbell, Michael Redmond, Jr., Edw. Localuski. The company was equipped with one hose carriage with reel capacity of

500 feet, one hand chemical wagon with two tanks of 35 gallons each.

The present officers are: Pres., Joseph Campbell; Secy., Dan. Campbell; Vice Pres., Edw. Smith; Treas., William Sadusky; Foreman, John Clifford; Asst. Foreman, John Getavitsky; Trustees, Walter Birchess, Stanley Gilpon, Jos. Meluskey.

The Rescue Hook and Ladder Co. No. 1, which was organized Nov. 3, 1874, occupied their own two story brick building at the corner of Main and Washington Sts. They were equipped with an auto chemical engine, a horse drawn hook and ladder truck and five head of horses. In 1914, the company owned all equipment except the truck.

On account of the coal being mined under their building the company purchased the property at the corner of Main and Coal Sts., which it now occupies. In 1933, they completed one of the most outstanding fire company buildings in the borough. They are equipped with the best fire apparatus. This company was organized Nov. 3, 1874.

The officers for 1934 were: Pres., Alfred Knott; Vice Pres., Burton Cale; Chaplain, John H. Jones; Recording Secy., Phillip Gradwell; Financial Secy., Donald Boyd, Treas., Raymond Ulshafer; Asst. Treas., Wm. Frey; Company Trustees, Geo. Knott, Harry Bayliff, and David Gozinsky; Fire Trustees, Geo. Dower, Albert Blackman and Ernest Harsley.

May 13, 1915, the Polish-American Fire Co. was organized. They purchased the property at the corner of West and Centre Sts. and built a splendid building there. They are equipped with the most modern and best fire apparatus. Some of the first official members are: Pres., Anthony Krankowsky; Vice Pres., John Rice; Recording Secy., Joseph Gobrick; Financial Secy., Alex Palutsky; Treas., Frank Zyckowski; Trus-

tees, John Prasnowski, Zygmund Zakiewicz, Anthony Wienciolofski, Zygmund Rynkiewicz, Victor Skonieczny. One of the first chartered members of this company and to whom great credit was due in helping to organize this company was the late John Paskey.

The officers of the company for 1934 were: Pres., Jos. Gobrick; Vice Pres., Victor Skonieczny; Recording Secy., John Velinsky; Financial Secy., Jos. Kulhavick; Treas., Jos. Miernicki; Trustees, Jos. Miernicki, John Osinski, and John Klosowski.

The Shenandoah Heights Fire Co. was organized by Jas. Walsh and Jos. Karvois. The first officers were: Pres., Patrick Sweeney; Fire Chief, George Sneddon. The second and present fire house was built in 1923. The present officers are: Pres., Elias Hopkins; Fire Chief, Tally Derringe.

The Chief Fire Marshal for 1934 of the Shenandoah Fire Companies was Ralph J. Miller from the Rescue Hook and Ladder Company. The marshals are: Charles Bickelman of the Columbia Fire Co.; John Velinski, of the Polish-American

Fire Co.; Thomas O'Hearn of the Phoenix Fire Co.; and Harry Dower of the Rescue Hook and Ladder Co.

The following are the officers for 1934 of the Fire Relief Association and Fire Department: Pres., Ernest Harsley; Vice Pres., Peter Bauer; Secy., John J. Cantlin; Treas., Wm. G. Taylor.

The opening and operation of the coal mines contributed largely to the steady growth in population and also to a degree of cosmopolitanism not found elsewhere in the United States.

The abundance of coal and the nearness to other raw materials, the transportation facilities and the nearness to market, the unexcelled water supply, the abundance of skilled and unskilled labor, the excellent school system, the sanitary conditions provided by the borough officials, the efficient fire and police protection, the recreational facilities of the region, the healthy climate, reasonable cost of living, the fair taxes, reasonable utility rates, the many churches and the charitable and social people all combine to make Shenandoah a highly desirable place in which to live.

Schuylkill An Original Township

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* January 7-14, 1935)

The history of Tuscarora was prepared by James P. Noonan, Principal of Tuscarora Schools.

Information was contributed by Henry Steinmetz, James Kerschner, Mrs. Mary Tuite and Mrs. Helen Burns.

The history of Brockton was prepared by Jacob W. Schafer, Principal of Brockton Schools.

The history of Maryd was prepared by Harrison Yost, Principal of Maryd Schools.

Schuylkill Township was one of the original townships of Schuylkill County when that county was carved out of Berks County in 1811. It then comprised a large area from which Blythe Township was formed in 1846, and it contributed territory in the formation of Mahanoy, Butler, New Castle, East Norwegian and Walker Townships. Schuylkill and Walker Townships existed under one organization until 1878, when the greater part of the territory then known as Schuylkill Township was absorbed in the formation of Walker Township.

The formative period of organization, settlement, establishment of churches and schools, and the development of internal industries was passed during the domination of Schuylkill Townships. For the convenience of the people the new township of Walker was organized.

Schuylkill Township at present lies principally between the Locust Mountain on the north and the Sharp Mountain on the south and extends from Tamaqua Borough on the east to Blythe Township on the west. The eastern end of the township is drained by the Wabash and the western end by the Schuylkill. The Schuylkill is joined at the eastern end of Brockton by Big Creek, which flows down through the pic-

turesque Moss Glen. This Glen has been for many years the mecca for picnickers from the surrounding villages.

The original Schuylkill Township included a great portion of the line of the Schuylkill Valley railroad along which a number of mines were opened in the early days of the county's history. Schuylkill Township is a mountainous region, rich in coal deposits in the northern section and throughout the Schuylkill Valley. The Schuylkill Valley Railroad traverses this section from west to east, affording communication with the market for the product of the mining districts, and making connection with Tamaqua.

In the early 70's, the Tamaqua coal basin, which had been extensively worked west of Tamaqua, contained some of the oldest collieries in the coal region. The veins that had been worked at that time were alphabetically classified and were fifteen in number. The smaller basins of Kaska William, Tuscarora, Tackerville and Buckville are found within this territory. Although so many veins had been worked in this region, it had been estimated by excellent authority that two-thirds of all the coal mined at that time was taken from the Mammoth vein.

Early Settlers—Sharp Mountain

The early settlers of Tuscarora comprised the English, the Irish, the Welsh and the Germans. Some of the pioneer families settled south of the Railroad, called the Sharp Mountain. This settlement extended to some extent along the present railroad tracks. Virgin forest was cut down by many of these people to erect rude log cabins. The forest was very dense and the settlers just cleared enough to make their gardens. The woods were inhabited by many wild animals that often came into the clearings around the homes. The density of the forests caused this section of the town to be very shady.

From 25 to 30 families lived at Sharp Mountain. The men were chiefly employed at the Foundry and the Greenback Colliery operated by Northal, Southal and Broughall. Some were employed by Bell and Bolton in tunnel operations.

Among the pioneer families there are two that have many descendants living in Schuylkill Township: The Coleman and the Large families. They emigrated to Tuscarora from Ireland about 1836. Thomas Large and the Coleman family built, first a log cabin, then a house of native stone upon a site along the road leading to Lewis-town. Traces of this stone house and of the well may still be seen. Mr. Large died early in life from effects of an injury received in the mines. He was Township Supervisor for several terms.

Later when coal operations ceased many families deserted the Sharp Mountain settlement. Mrs. Large was the last one to leave and moved to Dutch Hill in Tuscarora, where she lived until her death eighteen years ago. The oldest living member of this family now living in Tuscarora is Mrs. Mary

Tuite, born in the old stone house, Feb. 17, 1865. Except for fifteen years' residence in Boston, Mass., she spent her entire life in the town contributing by her kindness and good will to the welfare of the community.

The original Coleman family of six members; namely, Patrick, John, Mary, Alice, Judith, and Catherine have many descendants living in the county. John Coleman, tax collector of the Township, Edward Murphy of Tamaqua, Dr. Michael Ryan, now deceased, a pioneer in the medical profession, are just a few of the prominent descendants.

Some of the families that lived at Sharp Mountain are the following: Mack, Kelley, Walker, Carney, Lawler, Cox, Brennan, Corcoran, Halloran, McCaully, Flynn, Victory, Tobin, Farrel, Williams and Jenkins.

Tuscarora Terminal And Famed Hotels

Alighting from the East Penn Bus at Tuscarora, four miles west of Tamaqua and about thirteen miles east of Pottsville, one would never realize from the appearance of the territory in the vicinity of the station that this Tuscarora at one time was the terminus of the Schuylkill Valley branch of the great Reading railway from Philadelphia, and that on the brow of the hill northeast of this station was located a large summer hotel, where hundreds of city people came annually and partook of the fresh mountain air and enjoyed themselves during the torrid months of the summer season; in fact, the demand for quarters was so great in this "Saratoga Springs" of the Schuylkill Valley that it was necessary to construct an annex for sleeping quarters. This annex still is standing and is owned by the Haggerty sisters, who also own the handsome dwelling house, which at one time was an

up-to-date hotel, located at the corner of Walnut and Broad street. On the opposite side of the street stood the Stephen and Strothers' immense hotel of long ago, which is now torn down. At the present time on that site stands a new dwelling house with all modern conveniences, owned and occupied by the Elensky family.

The owners of the hotel were coal operators and their mine was north of Walnut Street, which is the turnpike or highway of the Valley. The hotel had 35 rooms, and furnished excellent accommodations, including a large ball room, where hundreds of people tripped the "light fantastic" until the early hours of morn.

The first manager of the hotel was a Mrs. Miller, who was famous for the excellence of the cooking.

The proprietors of the hotel and mines lived in a cottage in the northern section of the town.

Another outstanding hotel of the early 50's was the Palmer House, located on what is now Catawissa St., in the neighborhood of the present new school building. This was a sort of terminal for the stages which ran between Philadelphia and Williamsport.

PAST AND PRESENT HISTORY OF TUSCARORA

Tuscarora was laid out in 1830 by Joseph Lyons. It boasted at one time of a turntable for locomotives, a foundry and machine shops, a number of hotels and fine stores, and a lively progressive frontier population. The post office was established May 20, 1830, with Mr. Donaldson as post-master.

Stephen and Strothers operated their mine until 1865, when they sold out to Schall and Donahue.

Among the old time families remembered are the Kershners, of

whom John W., the township's leading politician for many years, was a representative. His sister, Mary, kept a large store in the substantial brick homestead on the top of the hill on the eastern road leading from the railroad station.

Across the street is the dwelling of Frederick Brachman, son of a pioneer settler of Brockton, who had been engaged extensively in the meat business, who at present is President of the Board of Education and conducts an eating place and service station. There is a fine body of water at the rear of the Brachman station, and many tourists stop, eat and drink, and take a dip in the mountain water.

Wm. Beacham and Hugh Haggerty operated a mine on the Sharp mountain to the south of the town in the 60's, and the Beacham store was on the main street corner opposite the large hotel. Mr. Beacham, after selling his mine interest, went to Shenandoah and engaged in the coal business in that town.

Early Mining In Tuscarora

One of the first mines at Tuscarora was worked by Jas. Palmer, at the foot of Locust Mountain above the village. It was a drift above water level, of course. The production in 1842 was 6,000 tons. The mines were often shut down, navigation of the canal being suspended three or four months of the year. This was 600 feet in length and cut three veins, then known as the Greer, White Ash, and Tuscarora, with an average thickness of nine feet.

With improvements to the mines and shipping by railroad, Operator Palmer believed he could ship 10,000 tons of coal annually.

Wallace & Co. mined the Tuscarora vein with a gangway 900 feet in length, and shipped large quantities of excellent coal before Palmer took it.

Mining On Sharp Mountain

West of Tuscarora, and on the northern slope of Sharp Mountain, Aquilla Bolton, a Port Carbon man, operated a mine in which the vein had a north pitch of eighty degrees, almost perpendicular, producing excellent coal. This mine was on the estate of Samuel Bell, of Reading, who owned 500 acres of coal land.

Operator Bolton had mines in other sections of the valley, leasing the land and paying so much a ton. This charge was called a royalty, perhaps from the old country practice of raising revenues for the government from the leasing of lands, mineral and otherwise.

Finding Of A Rich Vein

John J. Dovey operated a mine near Tuscarora. He was associated with Geo. W. Johnson and John Southall. It is reported that Mr. Johnson said he was able to select the spot where coal can be found through a knowledge of the forest growth; and it proved that he was right for the tunnel had not been driven far before a rich vein of the finest coal was found. About the middle of the 60's, Dovey sold his Tuscarora mine to the Consolidated Coal Co.

Northal, Southal and Broughall operated the Greenback Colliery on the Sharp Mountain slope, southwest of Tuscarora. G. W. Johnson was interested in this colliery. They had a drift above water level.

Edward Silliman, an operator, who afterwards moved to Mahanoy City, and became owner of the water works there, had a mine between Tuscarora and Brockton. It is related that he cleared a dollar a ton on a hundred thousand tons of coal the last year he was in the coal business there and that he invested a large portion of it in the water works.

Conrad Graeber's Mine

Conrad Graeber operated a mine

northeast of the village. It was the custom in those days to have a store connected with every colliery. These were general stores and everything needed by the family was sold in them. After Graeber left Tuscarora he opened a colliery at Locust Gap. His colliery at Tuscarora was a large one and employed approximately two hundred men and boys.

Seagris and Van Winkle opened a colliery at the present site of MaryD Colliery, a mile and a half west of Tuscarora, and operated it for some years, closing it about the year, 1869. Patrick Hopkins was the next operator of the Colliery, and he operated it just a short time. The MaryD Coal Co. and the Jeddo Highland Co. were the two last companies that continued its operation. About two years ago the latter company suspended operations, and the colliery is now abandoned.

Three slopes were sunk a distance of three hundred feet each, one at Buckville and the other two near Reevesdale. Two lifts or levels were on each slope. One of the miners who took an active part in the sinking of the Buckville and other slopes in that section of the "valley" was Neil Dougherty, a well informed miner and the father of the late Hugh J. Dougherty, one of Tuscarora's leading business men and outstanding citizens.

The land was first owned by the Little Schuylkill Compy., and then passed into the hands of the L. C. & N. Co. Next the Pardees of Hazleton acquired the lease, now said to be owned by the Reading Coal and Iron Co., which pumped out the water of the old workings a number of years ago, and bored to prove the veins. Preparations had been made to erect a breaker but the work was stopped after the panic of 1907. The old workings were allowed to refill with water. In the opinion of the old miners,

millions of tons of anthracite are beneath the ground there. The two large breakers that were there when the mines were abandoned back in the 70's were torn down by the Pardees.

Water Works And Industries

Water works were established in Tuscarora during the early 50's and the village was supplied through wooden pipes. The water was believed to contain some medicinal properties, which it did because of its virgin purity if for no other reason.

A large stone foundry with a slate roof was located a short distance below where Brachman's Service Station now stands. In this neighborhood there were about twelve tenement houses owned by a Mr. Waters.

After the railroad went through Tuscarora, which was about 1865, the foundry business decreased considerably and the tenement houses became vacated, and eventually were torn down.

Three new large breakers were erected between Tuscarora and Tamaqua. One at Reevesdale, called the Wabash, and the other two at Buckville and New Kirk. Early in the 70's, these breakers were abandoned.

The borough of Tamaqua insisted upon having a new depot erected. It is stated that Franklin B. Gowen, who was then President of the Reading Co., said that he would let the grass grow green on all the streets before he would consent to build it. Shortly afterward the collieries were abandoned and the workmen moved up to the Mahanoy City region to secure employment. This caused a general stagnation in the Tuscarora district, similar to that when Reevesdale and MaryD suspended operations not very long ago.

The Peach Mt. Colliery below

MaryD was drowned out and abandoned in the early 70's; the boilers at Donahue's Colliery blew up, destroying pumps and engines and the colliery has not worked since.

The Old Swamp Colliery, north of the Peach Mt. Colliery, was also abandoned. Mr. Gowen's words actually came true. Business became stagnated, the inhabitants became 'discontented and moved away, and the region was left in a very unsettled state.

The cessation of all these Collieries in the Tuscarora region caused a great deal of discomfort. Lack of employment caused most of the people to use up their reserve funds, and as a climax to this distressing condition, the Huntzinger's Bank, in Pottsville, where most of the people put their money for safe keeping, failed. A great migration then took place. Their objective was "north of the mountain," where new mines were opened, and there they started life over again.

In the early 70's, Tuscarora was quite a manufacturing center for cigars. Jake and John Stivetts, residents of Tuscarora, went to New York and learned the art of cigar-making. They came back and erected a factory in the neighborhood of the present Catholic Church.

Cigar-makers came in from Lebanon, York, Hanover and other towns and eventually a half dozen or more factories were operating. A great volume of business was done at first, but due to the keen competition in some of the other towns the business ceased.

Bell Colliery—Chief Industry

The Bell Colliery, formerly Gorman and Champion, which is located about one-half mile below Tuscarora, began operations in the early 80's. This is the chief industry upon which the men of Tuscarora,

Brockton and vicinity depend upon to earn a livelihood. The breaker is up to date, modern in all respects and in first class condition. The superintendent believes that in order to keep up their large volume of coal trade, the property, mechanism and everything connected with the industry must be kept in good running order, in order to give to the trade the finest, cleanest, and best coal that is mined. About three years ago, new pockets were built in the breaker at an approximate cost of \$30,000; a new siding to hold 20 cars, constructed at an expense of \$3,000, and a new trestle was erected at a cost of \$8,000. The breaker is no longer run by steam, but is electrified throughout. A modern cleaning equipment, the best that could be secured, including the Deister concentrating tables, is part of the present day machinery. Two years ago the scale was lengthened and the office enlarged for the convenience and comfort of the truckers and office force. Most of the timber is cut from their own tract and a modern saw mill is in continuous operation. The colliery employs about 175 men and produces over 10,000 tons of coal per month. The pay roll is over a quarter million dollars a year. In all the mines, electric motors are in operation, and the traditional mine mule has passed into oblivion. Not long ago, electric lamps were installed for the safety and convenience of the miners. Electric fans and automatic pumping equipment were installed about four years ago. Two-thirds of all the coal mined is transported to various sections of the country by means of trucks. About 75% of the trucks come from New Jersey. Trucks also come from Maryland, South Carolina and other states. Coal is shipped to Canada and other distant points. Sears Roebuck Co. and Henry Ford are among the best customers. The hard, white ash coal

at this operation pleases the most skeptical. This is one of the few collieries in the anthracite region that has worked full time during the depression. The superintendent of the colliery is Daniel Slattery, of New Phila., who has acted for the greater part of half a century. The mine foreman is John McCullough, of St. Clair, whose hard work and thorough knowledge of the mining industry has aided materially in the development of this colliery. He is ably assisted by the following mining men: Zimond Pukalavage, Henry Weicker and Dominic Negrello. The outside foreman is Vincent Barthel, of Brockton. He assumes the responsibility for the general progress on the outside. Frank Delaney is breaker boss. Chas. Elensky, who had served in the capacity of outside foreman some years ago, is the mechanical engineer, while Jacob Hartz, of Middleport, is the electrical engineer. Other hands are: Jacob Kirby, blacksmith; Billy Bowe and Oscar Heisler, night watchmen. The office, under the management of Leo Noonan is one of the best organized in the region. He is assisted by the following: Thos. Downey, who in addition to his official duties in the office, looks after the truck trade in the evening, beginning at 3 o'clock and ending at 11. Lawrence Hartz and John Flood also perform their duties in an efficient manner.

Tuscarora Supplied With Water In 1921

During the fall of 1920 the citizens of Tuscarora held a meeting to see what could be done relative to supplying the community with water. Up to this time their only means of securing water was by the old wooden pumps and draw wells.

Children going from one well to another often using buckets of an unclean and unsanitary nature proved detrimental to their health

and well being. The health of the community being in constant danger, necessitated that something be done immediately.

A meeting was held in the old school house, November, 1920, for the expressed purpose of getting action, and getting it at once. Jos. Burns, now station agent at Tuscarora, was elected chairman, Jos. C. Noonan, supervising principal of the school, secretary, and Jos. Weicker, tax collector, now deceased, treasurer.

The officers put on a "Progressive Campaign for Water Supply," and contributions to the amount of \$630.25 were secured.

Ex-Judge Shay and Attorney Heblich looked after the interest of the District, while Attorney John Whalen, now deceased, represented the Reading Co. Two important hearings were held concerning this vital question, one at Pottsville and the other at Harrisburg. The committee that went to Harrisburg was composed of J. C. Noonan, Joseph Weicker, Thos. Kenney, Hugh J. Dougherty, and John Bonenberger and Peter Peatick. J. C. Noonan was the only member of the committee who was asked to testify. The testimony was of such a convincing nature, that the facts presented were indisputable. A few months afterward the Public Service Commission directed the Company to furnish water to the community within a reasonable length of time; and by 1921, the residents of Tuscarora were supplied with water.

Tuscarora Schools

The first meeting called to consider the provisions of the new Free School law of 1834 met in the Court House in Orwigsburg, Nov. 4, 1834. It was a joint meeting of the county commissioners and delegates from the several districts of the

county. On calling over the districts it appeared that the conditions of the law were accepted by the districts of Schuylkill, Norwegian, Pottsville, and Orwigsburg and rejected by the delegates of the other districts.

In 1837, a board of directors was secured in Schuylkill Township who were unanimously in favor of general education. They opened six schools. Previously three pay schools, two in log houses, built for this purpose, and one in a rented room, furnished all the education of this district to those who desired it and had the means to pay the fifty cents a month demanded by the school master for his services.

The citizens of Tuscarora have always been deeply interested in progressive education. The first school house was erected in Tuscarora about 1844. It was a two story brick building and accommodated about 130 pupils. Benches were used as seats, and the heating, lighting and sanitation was rather poor, in comparison with the present day schools. This school building is still standing. An addition has been added to it, and is now used as a community hall. The Hose Company also occupies part of the building.

At this time, various mines around Tuscarora began to operate and a great many miners rushed to the town. The old Red School House became overcrowded due to this sudden influx of the English, Irish and Welsh that it was necessary to have some of the pupils attend school in other buildings. For quite a number of years the basement of Zion's Reformed Church was used as a school. Most of the primary education was given there—the older pupils attending school in the regular brick building. This was about 1858. The Old Brown Church was also used as a school for quite a number of years.

Some of the teachers of the early schools were: Mr. Butler, Mr. Bonner, Mr. Rosenberg, Mr. Fletcher, Mr. Marburger, Mr. Schock, Mr. Haggerty, Mr. Clouser, Mr. McGlitchy, Bernard O'Hare, James McGiel, Ellen Silliman, Mrs. Umbenhauer, Mrs. Murphy, Elizabeth Burns, Ellen Kerschner and Lottie Brick.

In 1922, a new public school building of modern design was erected a short distance below the old original school. This building consists of seven class rooms, modern in every respect. Departmental work is used in Grades 5-8. The building is in charge of Jas. P. Noonan, Principal. Other teachers in the building are Bernard Hollister, Henry Tolotti, Catherine Kenney, Mrs. Mary Sword, Marguerite Blew, and Mary Morris. At present, there are 185 pupils enrolled in the school.

The MaryD building, like the ones at Brockton, Tuscarora and New Kirk, is modern in every respect and one of the finest schools in the Township. The building is in charge of Harrison Yost, Principal. Other teachers in the building are Mrs. Mae Finn, Lawrence Dahm, and Margaret Bowe.

The teachers of the Brockton school are: Jacob W. Schaefer, Principal, Sarah Bassler and Helen Dixon.

New Kirk building is in charge of Mary Haggerty, Principal. Kathryn Doherty is the other teacher in the building.

There are over 500 pupils enrolled in the district.

There are 16 regular teachers, and 2 special teachers: Miss Mary Kane, Penmanship; Miss Elizabeth Kelly, Music. The supervising principal is Joseph C. Noonan.

There is no high school in this District and pupils are transported to Blythe Township High School. Up until a few years ago they re-

ceived their secondary education at the Tamaqua High School. At the present time there are 135 pupils attending the Blythe Township school from Schuylkill Township.

The members of the Board of Directors are: Fred W. Brachman, Pres.; John J. Kramer, Secty.; Robert E. Davidson, Treas.; Stephen Chinchar; Thomas Downey.

Other officers of the township are: John Coleman, Tax Collector; Richard Clifford, John Bonenberg-er, Amos Link, Supervisors; John Kotch, William Mill Sr., Raymond Broskey, Auditors; Frank Brobeck, Peter Ondeck Sr., Mike Kupetz Sr., Louis Washko, Peter Teroz, Janitors; Margaret Lawler, Mrs. George Hoffman, Attendance Officers.

Tuscarora Sewerage

In the fall of 1933 a strong movement began in the Township relative to securing a sewerage system.

Realizing that the C. W. A., which was an active agency of the government, was willing to supply funds for projects of a worthwhile and constructive nature, the citizens of Tuscarora held a meeting in the Town Hall to devise plans in regard to developing this project.

Jos. C. Noonan acted as temporary chairman. After a short talk dealing with the purpose of the meeting, the election of officers took place.

Thos. Large was elected chairman and Jas. P. Noonan was elected secretary. Other members appointed on the committee were John Coleman, present tax collector, Fred Krantz and the Board of Supervisors, consisting of Richard Clifford, John Bonenberger and Amos Link. The committee immediately started plans to get some action. Interviews were held with officials of the Reading Co., Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co., and Taxpayers Association.

Tentative plans for the construction of the sewer were drawn up by Messrs. John Coleman, Thomas Large and Jas. P. Noonan. Estimates, labor, material, etc., was all figured out by the committee. These plans were submitted to the Pottsville Office and the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co., who prepared excellent maps for use. The Lehigh Coal and Nav. Co. gave the services of their engineers who made an excellent survey of the township. The project was approved and in the late fall work was started. Scores of idle men were put to work.

John Coleman was put in complete charge of the job. After serving for a number of months, he relinquished the same to Charles Schock. Lenos Deitler, mechanic and tradesman, has also played an important part in supervising the work.

The total cost of the sewer up to date is around \$20,000. Before its completion, which will be January or February, it is estimated the cost will be approximately \$35,999. About 14,000 feet of pipe is necessary to complete the job.

CHURCHES

Zion's Church

The history of Zion's Church goes back at least to 1847, when the building was erected. The church was built by a Mr. Stevenson, of Philadelphia, for a group of Episcopalians who used to come from that city to Tuscarora in the summertime. The congregation was known as Calvary Episcopal Church. These people used the building until 1857 or 1858. Owing to a dearth of industries, the Episcopalians left the town. The Reformed people received permission from them to use the church, and from that time have continued to worship there.

The beginnings of the Reformed congregation are obscure. Among

the earliest pastors were Revs. Derr and Kurtz, and others, whose names are not known. Rev. Kurtz was serving from St. John's, Tamaqua, before Trinity, Tamaqua, was built, and at least as early as 1868; he was apparently still supplying in 1872. It would seem that different ministers supplied from time to time, without interruption, before the congregation was organized. The first recorded minutes of the Consistory are dated March, 1893.

Rev. J. J. Fisher, D. D., of Tamaqua, served the congregation from 1888 until his death on Jan. 22, 1913. Until about 1912 the Lutherans worshipped with the Reformed congregation, but then they withdrew and built their own church. Following the death of Dr. Fisher, the congregation was supplied by Revs. J. J. Mengel, of Tamaqua, Rev. Guinther of Summit Hill, and Rev. Beam of Montgomery. In 1913 Schuylkill Classis appointed Rev. Roy J. Freeman, of Pottsville, to serve the church; this he did for one year, after which he removed from the bounds of Classis.

At the annual meeting of Classis in 1914, Zion Church was attached to the parish of St. Clair, when Rev. E. Franklin Faust became the pastor. He served until 1920. Thereafter Revs. Pierce E. Swope (1920-1922) and Rev. H. A. Behrens (1922-1929) also served from St. Clair. The congregation was chartered in 1919. In 1925 the church was renovated and improved.

In 1929 Zion Church was made a regular part of the New Ringgold parish, the other churches being Christ Church, McKeansburg, Friedens Church, New Ringgold, and Zion Church, Lewistown. During that year the parish was supplied by Burt A. Behrens, a son of Rev. Behrens and a student at the Theological Seminary at Lancaster.

Near the end of 1929 care of the parish was assumed by Theo. J. Schneider, a senior at the Seminary, who became the pastor upon his ordination and installation on May 18, 1930. Lee J. Gable, a classmate of Mr. Behrens, supplied the parish during June of that year. In December, 1930, the Constitution of 1893 of Zion Church was revised to meet changed conditions.

In June, 1930, a new bell was presented to the church by Daniel G. Pfeiffer, as a memorial to his mother. While the bell was being raised to the tower, the ceiling of the church fell down, smashing all the pews and damaging the walls and windows. The accident was attributed to a split girder caused by a bolt of lightning which had some time previously struck the church. This was a severe blow to the congregation, since it came during a time of great financial depression. But the members bravely shouldered a debt of some \$1650 in order to repair and improve the church. The new bell was dedicated on Sept. 28, 1930. The rededication of the church took place on Jan 11, 1931, being followed by four days of festal services.

Zion Church is a landmark, standing on an eminence which dominates the town. In its tower there is a clock fitted to strike the hours.

Advent Evangelical Lutheran

The Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tuscarora, came into being through the efforts of a confirmation class of 28 members, confirmed Sept. 12, 1909, in Zion's Reformed Church of that town by the Rev. G. M. Bock, pastor of the Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, of Mahanoy City. The organization of the congregation occurred during the season of Advent and thus the Church derived its name.

Following this organization meeting, the congregation held their services of worship in the school house.

In 1910, a plot of ground was purchased, and work was begun on the foundation of the church. On October 9, of that same year, the corner stone was laid with appropriate services. On Nov. 8, 1914, the Church was dedicated and a week of special services followed.

A Slovak Lutheran congregation was organized, and granted the use of the church to hold its monthly services, Slovak pastors coming from nearby towns to officiate. These services were abandoned a few years ago, and the members of this congregation are gradually coming into membership with the English congregation.

On Sept. 14, 1924, the Home Circle was organized by Mrs. Raymond A. Kline, and the church has displayed an active interest in the work of the Church ever since.

The following pastors have served the congregation since the time of its organization: Rev. Wm. A. Kramlich, 1909-1911; Rev. Geo. W. Fritch, Ph. D., 1912-17; Rev. J. P. Schmidt, 1917-18; Rev. John W. Schmitthenner, Ph. D., 1918-23; Rev. Raymond A. Kline, 1923-26; Rev. Aaron H. Klick, 1927-30; Rev. C. Elwood Huegel, S. T. M., 1931-

St. Raphael's Church

St. Raphael's Catholic Church of Tuscarora, which now has a membership of approximately 105 families, was erected in 1857. Services were conducted over a period of sixty years by priests who came here from Tamaqua. It was not until 1922 that this town had a parish priest of its own.

In 1921, a number of citizens of Tuscarora who were particularly interested in securing a priest for this town, circulated a petition, making a request to the proper authorities to have Tuscarora converted into a parish of its own.

Every Catholic family in the town signed this petition with the result

that in 1922, Father E. J. Boyle, of Coaldale, was appointed pastor.

Since the advent of Father Boyle much progress has been accomplished. The church had been in a rather dilapidated condition and renovating was immediately started. In course of a very short time the building had a very wholesome and attractive appearance and today it is in first-class condition.

A Catholic cemetery is located on the Lewistown mountain, a short distance from Tuscarora. Father Boyle secured this plot of ground from the Reading Co., and with the assistance of his parishioners has put it into a fair condition. While the work is by no means complete, in course of due time the parish expects to have a well kept modern cemetery.

Two years ago, the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of St. Raphaels took place, with Father Appollanaris, a Missionary Father, officiating. The church has been beautifully decorated, painted, and improved.

Tuscarora At Present

Tuscarora at the present time has a population of 800.

Among the business places are nine stores, six hotels, three barber shops, two pool rooms, two service stations, two garages, two butcher shops, and one shoe maker.

The old school house has been completely renovated and converted into a community hall.

The post office is in charge of Wm. A. Starr.

Two modern up-to-date service stations are within the limits of the town; one conducted by F. W. Brachman, and the other by Hugh Dougherty.

The Tuscarora Fire Co. has modern equipment; ready for any emergency.

OLDEST LIVING NATIVE RESIDENTS

No history would be complete without paying tribute to the oldest

native lining residents. Those residing in Tuscarora today are: Henry Steinmetz, Mrs. Helen Burns, John McAvoy, James Kerschner, and Frederick W. Brachman.

Henry Steinmetz

Henry Steinmetz was born in Tuscarora, Feb. 28, 1861. He is the son of Jos. and Rose Steinmetz. His father was born in France and his mother in Germany. Henry's parents were married in Tuscarora in 1852. Mr. Steinmetz's education was confined to the schools of Tuscarora. Unfortunately, he was sent to work at Donahue's Colliery when only nine years of age. Most of his education, therefore, was obtained in the school of experience and self-effort.

During the greater part of his life he worked at the various collieries in the Schuylkill Valley. On May 25, 1887, in company with Mike Farrell and family he left for Haley, Idaho, and engaged in prospecting in the silver region. During November of the same year he met with an unfortunate explosion at Haley, which resulted in the loss of one arm and partial loss of the sight of one eye.

After arriving home from the West, he threw his hat into the political arena of Schuylkill Township, and in three successive years (1889-90-91) was elected Supervisor of the Township on the Republican ticket. It was about this time that he was married to Louise Eckert of Heckley. Later, he became Township Clerk. After leaving politics he went to Lakeside Park and conducted a stand selling cigars, candy, novelties, etc., for a period of thirty years. During part of the time that he was at Lakeside he was agent for Chase Brothers Nursery for about eighteen years. His mining career was chiefly with the following collieries: Silver Creek, Kaska, Gormans, Buckville, Reevesdale and Donahues. During the

last six years he has been living retired at his home in Tuscarora.

Mr. Steinmetz is a man of the highest ideals, perfect character, and his honesty is never questioned.

Frederick W. Brachman

Frederick W. Brachman has spent all his life in Schuylkill Township and is deservedly held in esteem as one of its most creditable citizens. The large wholesale and retail meat trade which he had been engaged in for almost half a century has been developed through his judgment and foresight.

A native of Brockton, Schuylkill Township, born April 6, 1866, he is the son of the late Fred W. and Margaret (Gross) Brachman. His father was born in Germany.

He was educated in the schools of Brockton and was employed around the various collieries until twenty years old, beginning as a slate picker at Boston Run Colliery. Then he went to work for Chas. Miller, a butcher, at Tuscarora, where he was engaged for one year. He and his brother, Peter, bought out Mr. Miller conducting the business under the name of Brachman Brothers. They carried on until 1907 when Fred purchased the brother's interest and carried along himself until 1919.

Mr. Brachman has been a member of the Board of Education for 32 years—president of that body for 28—Treasurer, 2 years—Secretary, one year.

At the present time he conducts a Service Station along the lower side of Tuscarora.

He married Sarah Schoener, daughter of Daniel Schoener, of Lewistown, and children as follows have been born to them: Ida, wife of Wm. DeLay; Margaret; Fredericka, who died when 3½ years old; Harry, Herbert, now deceased; Lloyd, Norman, Beatrice, Ruth and Sarah.

John McAvoy

John McAvoy, one of the oldest residents in Tuscarora was born there in 1859—a short distance below the Reading Depot known as the Sharp Mountain. He was educated in the schools of Tuscarora. Both his parents came from Ireland.

Mr. McAvoy, like most of the residents of that period, was sent to work when he was only ten years old. He started as a slate picker at the old Wabash above the Blue Robin and worked around the breaker until he was 17 years of age. He also worked at the following collieries: New Boston, Morea, Big Vein, Swift Creek Colliery, MaryD and Peach Mountain. He worked on the railroad for quite a number of years, and was considered an excellent section man.

In 1926 he was elected janitor of the Tuscarora school for one year and performed his work in a creditable manner. He and his sister, Agnes, had been living together for many years. After her death, which occurred about six years ago, Mr. McAvoy continued to occupy the same residence.

John is remembered as one of the most notable characters among the early citizens. His own early struggles made him sympathetic with efforts of others and he aided many to turn failure into success in many ways. Beginning with limited means he worked his way to a comfortable position in life. He is the possessor of real estate, living comfortably and happy and enjoying good health.

Mrs. Helen Burns

No name in Tuscarora is more highly respected than that of Burns where through the past sixty years of honorable association with social and community life its standing has been maintained without qualification.

Mrs. Helen Burns, daughter of the

late Daniel Malloy was born in Tuscarora, Feb. 19, 1854. Her parents both came from Ireland. She received her education in the schools of Tuscarora; and is the oldest native resident of this town and is entitled to the respect of all her associates as the reward of a useful life.

Mrs. Burns, whose faculties are keen and alert even today, at the age of eighty years, remembers well, when in the early 60's the stage coaches passed regularly through this town.

She recalls after the Civil War was ended the soldiers on horseback passing through Tuscarora and camping in what we call the Pines, a short distance away from Kennedy's Mill. She has witnessed the material progress that has been made in her own town, and has lived to see what seemed to be an impossibility 70 years ago, namely, the town and homes being illuminated by electricity, water in the homes, and a modern sewerage system, which is practically completed.

She married Patrick Burns, now deceased, and has the following children: Joseph, a station agent at Tuscarora, who has been in the employ of the Reading Co. for a period of 40 years, 33 years at New Phila., now at Tuscarora; Giles, also a station agent, who has served the same company for approximately 30 years; Nellie, who conducts a general store in the town; Mary (Mrs. Hugh Dougherty), wife of the late H. J. Dougherty, one of Tuscarora's highly respected and useful citizens; and Dr. Leo Burns, of Phila.

The last named son is worthy of special and particular mention in this brief sketch, due to the fact that he is the only native from this town who entered the priesthood. Dr. Burns received his early education in the schools of Tuscarora. He taught school here for a few years, and then entered St. Charles

Seminary, Phila. At this institution he acquitted himself very creditably and honorably and had the distinction of being sent to Rome to pursue his education in special work. He was ordained in Rome, Feb. 19, 1922, and received the degree of Doctor of Divinity. On his return to his native land, he assumed charge of the Birdsboro Parish. After spending a few years there he was transferred to Phila. where he became Assistant Diocesan Superintendent of schools. At present he is Rector of Boys' Catholic High School, Philadelphia, and resides at St. Vincent's Home, Lansdowne.

Mrs. Burns has her own residence where she and her daughter live happily together.

James Kerschner

James Kerschner belongs to a family that has been in Pennsylvania from Provincial days. While Mr. Kerschner is not a native born resident of this town, he spent all his life here with the exception of about 1½ years. He was born in 1861, near Leesport, the son of Jacob Kerschner, a noted squire of bygone days, and a cousin of John U. Kerschner, now deceased, who was one of the outstanding citizens in the Schuylkill Valley.

Mr. Kerschner received his education in the schools of Tuscarora. He added considerably to his own education, by self effort and a strong determination to familiarize himself with all questions affecting the general welfare of the community, state and nation. His work was confined chiefly to the carpenter trade. He worked at Slattery's, Cooke's and some other collieries during different periods of his life. Intelligence and public spirit made him one of the most renowned citizens of the town.

He has been living retired for over a period of years, and resides with Paul Leskosky, the popular hotel keeper of Tuscarora.

Frank Brodbeck

Frank Brodbeck has spent the major portion of his life in Tuscarora and is recognized by his fellow citizens as being one of their most respected residents. He is a native born citizen of Tuscarora, and is the son of the late George and Annie (Yost) Brodbeck. His parents were of German descent.

Mr. Brodbeck was born Aug. 29, 1864, in what is now known as "Haggerty's Row," which is located on Walnut Street.

He was educated in the schools of Tuscarora, but like most of the older residents he was forced to go to work when only nine years of age. His first job was at Buckville in 1873. Later on in life he worked at the Tamaqua Slaughter House, New Boston, Kaska William and MaryD. At the last named colliery, which is now abandoned, he worked for a period of twenty-five years, during which time he supervised the work on the timber bank.

His political affiliations were always with the Republican Party.

He served as Constable of the town for eight years (1912-1920) and was a member of the School Board for fourteen years (1920-1934).

At the present time, he is janitor of the Tuscarora School and is pursuing his duties in an efficient and admirable capacity.

He married Margaret Garland, now deceased, in 1886; and children as follows have been born to them: Laura (Mrs. Thos. Blew), Mary (Mrs. Stanley Locke), and George, who stays at home.

John Coleman

John Coleman, son of the late John Coleman and Anna (Cassidy) Coleman is one of the foremost and outstanding citizens of the town. He was born in Tuscarora July 27, 1873, and when only a boy his parents moved up to the Mahanoy Region.

He started to work in 1883 when only 10 years of age at Hills Colliery which belonged to the Reading Co. His first job was picking slate. He worked at various jobs around the breaker and then secured employment in the mines at Silliman's Old Colliery, north of Mahanoy. At this colliery he engaged in quite a variety of jobs such as tending door, driving mules, loading, etc. He also worked at the New Boston Colliery.

After spending about 10 years of his life in the Mahanoy Region he decided to come back to Tuscarora. He arrived here about 1892 and started out on a most noteworthy and successful career. He worked at the Silver Creek Colliery and for Slattery Brothers.

One of his first jobs involving considerable responsibility was with the Potts Powder Firm (now known as the Atlas) where he acted in the capacity of general foreman.

Mr. Coleman went to Trenton and learned his trade in polishing, wire drawing, etc., while in the employ of John Roebling and Son. When Mr. Simms, a contractor, put the branch line into MaryD, Coleman was considered one of the most valuable men on the job. He worked for the Eastern Penn when the tracks were laid from Brockton to Tamaqua, and was track foreman on this particular job.

When the houses were being built at MaryD he graded the cellars for the Sharon Building Co. and worked for a long time on tracks at this colliery. He worked at MaryD under Supt. Kennedy as track foreman and bank boss.

After leaving MaryD he went to work for the Reading Co. at Reevesdale. While at this colliery he served as track boss, shovel boss and construction foreman for about 14 years.

Mr. Coleman has a very interesting career and has always per-

formed his duties in an efficient and creditable manner. He worked for the J. G. White Construction Co. as track foreman; foreman on a bridge job, double track at Havre De Grace, Maryland, and as an iron worker for the American Bridge Company. He also had charge of the job for Eastern Penn when the road was repaired from St. Clair to Port Carbon.

In his younger days Jack Coleman was considered one of the best amateur ball players that the valley ever produced. He played with Reading, Hamburg, Wilkes-Barre, and numerous other teams and was recognized as one of the fastest infielders that the region ever boasted of.

When 18 years of age he played with Heckscherville against Pottsville in one of the most thrilling games that he ever experienced. Christ Fullmer, Jones, Stivetts, etc., are a few of the stars whom he played against.

Jack has always been an ardent baseball fan and has been managing teams in Tuscarora for 10 years or more and was the manager of the recent Junior League Club.

Mr. Coleman has been a success in life due to his willingness and cooperative spirit to give the best that he can at all times for the general interest of all. Politically, he is a Republican, and has served the people of the Township in the following manner: Auditor, 3 times; Supervisor, Justice of the Peace and Tax Collector for two terms, 1929-1937.

He married Sarah Doyle and children as follows have been born to them: John Coleman, Anna, Bernard, Bille, (Mary, deceased), Sarah, (Alice, deceased), (Gerald, deceased), (Donald, deceased).

In 1914, quite a number of years after the death of his first wife, Mr. Coleman married Mary Fagan

and children as follows have been born to them: Joseph, James, Jane, Patricia, Edward, Joan, Thomas and Catherine, twins. Mr. Coleman has one stepson, John Fagan.

BROCKTON (FORMERLY PATTERSON)

Patterson, now Brockton, was settled in 1830. It is the rival of Tuscarora in the matter of age, both claiming the honors of antiquity. It seems, however, that Patterson has the better claim. Both were settled in 1830, but Patterson was laid out prior to that time as may be seen by the fact that a deed dated on Jan. 1, 1830, to lot No. 15 was executed, transferring title to said lot from Burd Patterson and Edwin Swift to Henry Heinley for \$100, which required that a house valued at \$50 was to be built within a period of one year. This original deed is now in the possession of Harry J. Brachman, who now holds title to the ground specified in this deed.

Patterson, named after Burd Patterson, Esq., is located near the confluence of Big Creek, with the Schuylkill River along the Schuylkill Valley Railroad. It was laid out by Messrs. Burd Patterson, Swift and Parker, and during the year 1832 contained about twenty dwellings, two taverns, and two stores.

Minehill, abounding with excellent coal, approaches the town and has been a source of prosperity for many years and no doubt will serve the same for many decades.

The coal was taken in cars to Port Carbon where it was loaded on canal boats prior to its long trip to Philadelphia or New York. The railroad over which these cars ran at that time extended from Port Carbon to Patterson. The rails were wooden with an iron strip on the top. The location of this road can still be seen at the foot of the hill behind the Brockton Fire House.

The year 1845 was a year of great improvement in this section. The building of the new railroad under the supervision of A. W. Craven, engineer, which was completed in July, 1845, and which superseded the original one, served as a stimulus to business. The new road which made a junction with the Port Carbon railroad was nine miles in length extending to Tuscarora. It extended through one of the richest coal regions then known.

Increasing business brought many inhabitants to the immediate vicinity and necessitated the erection of numerous dwellings.

George H. Potts, of Pottsville, made six or more mine openings a short distance above the village of Patterson in 1845. In January, 1846, Patterson contained one store and a large hotel, which was famous for its sign upon which was painted a locomotive and called the "Valley House." This hotel was conducted by the Brachmans.

About this time, a small settlement was made and a village laid out a short distance east of Patterson on the east bank of Big Creek and named Brockville, in honor of John Brock, Esq., who was a partner in the ownership of the land. Such activity as was displayed during this period had hitherto been unknown in this valley.

In 1848 the population of Patterson was 169. The Major and Silliman Collieries were worked until 1871, when the output was no longer profitable. Two stone stacks still stand north of Patterson as monuments to the early pioneer operators. They are located just below the beautiful Moss Glen, famous for its beauty of scenery. In 1881 Patterson presented a picture of many unoccupied and broken down log houses and a population of 71 people. Most of the former inhabitants moved north of the mountain,

where they found work in the mines. In 1889 the population of the village had increased to 237.

The first post office at Patterson was established March 3, 1899, with Harry J. Brachman as the first postmaster. The name was Harry, Pa., until Oct. 7, 1905, when it was changed to Brockton, by order of the U. S. Post Office officials. This name, according to the U. S. Postal records, is a corruption of Brockville, which was at this time the name of the railroad station.

The Patterson of 1907 consisted largely of a collection of unoccupied houses which were rapidly yielding to decay.

Brockton Industries

The mining industry gave birth to the village of Brockton as it did to most of the villages of the Schuylkill Valley. The earliest collieries were opened by Messrs. Burd Patterson, Jno. Brock, Geo. Potts, Swift, Parker, Major, Silliman and others. The prosperity of the village rose and fell depending upon the demand for coal on the markets. During the first decade of the 20th Century, the Moss Glen Colliery was opened by a Mr. Greenfield, who washed most of the banks of what had formerly been waste sizes. This gave an impetus to the growth of the town. After a number of years of successful operation this colliery was put on the rocks by a certain Colonel Perch. Most of the residents now find employment at MaryD, Bell Colliery, and at Kaska.

A few years after the village had been established a successful Pottery did quite a business north of the village near the ruins of the Moss Glen breaker, where the railroad crosses Big Creek. The product was of the yellow or golden variety, and dishes in large numbers were turned out of it. There was a vein of clay suitable for pottery work, and this industry may

be revived as pottery clay is more valuable now.

In early days of this once bustling village Messrs. Halstead and Runnion erected a brewery which was located near the Junction of Big Creek and the Schuylkill River. There remains to this day at that place a hole known as the Brewery Hole. This brewery was in charge of a Swede named Bushy.

At the foot of the hill in Patterson was once a thriving brick factory. The remains of these bricks can still be found near the abandoned trolley bed.

The only industry now located in the village of Brockton is a factory owned by H. D. Bob & Co. of New York employing about 30 girls and manufacturing shirts, etc.

Brockton Schools

Brockton has always been favored by schools known for their high standards. When the Free Public School Law was ratified and made effective in Schuylkill Township, the building now occupied by Chester Sheaffer on Lots 20 and 21 on north side of Green Street and west of Franklin St., was used for a public school. This building was used until 1852, when a two-story brick and stone building was erected on the site of the present school building. The old schoolhouse was then purchased by Bishop Newman on Aug. 31, 1854, and named St. Bartholomew's Catholic Church, where the German Catholics worshipped for a number of years.

The two-story school building consisting of two rooms was occupied until it was torn down to make room for the present building. About 1912 a one room frame building was built to supplement the two-room building and to accommodate the ever-increasing number of students. This frame building burned down about 1917,

and the pupils of the 7th and 8th grades were compelled to walk to MaryD to continue their work under Miss Elizabeth Booth, who was principal of the Brockton School at that time. In 1918-1919, a new concrete-block building of modern design consisting of four rooms was erected on the site of the old building.

In addition to the public school, St. Bartholomew's Parish school was opened on Sept. 4, 1925, with four classes, in their former church building which was partly destroyed by fire on the night of Aug. 27, 1922. This school has grown rapidly and has been very successful.

Evening classes in the Russian language are also conducted by St. Mary's Greek Catholic Church.

Churches in Brockton

The history of the pioneer Catholics of Brockton may be traced back to the formation of Schuylkill County in 1811. Priests riding on horseback served regularly the Catholics of both Patterson and Brockville until 1846. In May, 1846, their first church was built near an old well. This church was known as the "Church near the Well." During a period of hard times, this church was finally abandoned. When the new public school building was erected in 1852, the German Catholics of the village began worshipping in the old schoolhouse. This building was purchased in 1834 and was known as the "Church in the Meadow." This building was used until the erection, in 1896, of the "Church on the Hill," at the corner of Mine and Washington Streets, under Father Longinus, of Pottsville. At present, St. Bartholomew's Congregation worships in one of the most beautiful Catholic Churches. It was built of native mountain stone, by the members and friends of

the congregation, and after four years of hard work was dedicated in 1924. The building is a monument to the untiring efforts of the Rev. Leo Fink, who supervised the work in person.

The Greek Catholics of the Valley worship in St. Mary's Greek Church of town, while those of the protestant faith worship in the churches at Middleport.

Brockton of Today

Brockton of today, the fall of 1934, consisted of 143 homes and a population of 688. Among the business places are to be found four grocery stores, seven hotels, two barber shops, one pool room, one hose house, two schools, two churches and one convent.

The postal affairs of the community have been very ably conducted by Miss Marie Bassler for many years.

The oldest man and woman in Brockton at the present time are Wm. Schafer, Sr., aged 77, and Miss Marie Gibson, aged 85. Schafer was born at Tuscarora, on Feb. 13, 1857, of German parents. His father migrated to the United States from Frankenhain, Nesse-cassel, Germany, landing in New York City on May 13, 1847. Mr. Schafer spent most of his life as a farmer, miner, and carpenter, retiring from active service in 1927.

Miss Maria Gibson is the oldest living resident, having been born in Patterson on Feb. 14, 1849, the year of the California gold rush. Her father, Thos. Gibson, was born near Londonderry, Ireland, and emigrated to America in 1805. Her mother was born in West Penn Township, Schuylkill County. Miss Gibson is the surviving member of the family of 14. She spent her entire life in Patterson following the occupation of seamstress.

MARYD

MaryD is a small mining village situated midway between Tuscarora and Brockton. It owes its origin to mining operations which were begun by the MaryD Coal Co., which name was changed to the Wentz Co., and still later to Hazle Brook Coal Co., these all being a part of the Wentz Co.

In 1928, the properties of the Hazle Brook Coal Co. were sold to Jeddo Highland Coal Co., of Jeddo, Pa., but the name Hazle Brook Coal Co. is still retained.

The original village of MaryD consisted of one hundred houses built in blocks. This number was later increased by seventy.

The first houses were erected in the spring of 1904 and mining operations started about April of that year. The breaker was completed in the fall of 1904. In January 1905, this breaker was destroyed by fire of unknown origin, but it is supposed that it was caused by some one putting away a mine lamp that was not extinguished properly.

Rebuilding of the breaker was started as soon as weather and receipt of material permitted, early in the spring of 1905. This second breaker was destroyed about July 1907, by fire of unknown origin; and soon was replaced by the present structure.

On May 29, 1913, a very serious accident occurred at the shaft of the MaryD Colliery in which seven men lost their lives.

A school building was erected and occupied in 1905. This was destroyed by fire early in the year, 1915. To take care of the pupils for the remainder of the school term, a temporary structure was erected a short distance from the site of the present building. This building was also used for one

month of the fall of 1915, when the present building was completed.

In June, 1932, mining operations were suspended, but the population has not been decreased very materially.

There are at present approximately seven hundred people living in MaryD.

Schoolhouse Burns to Ground

Fire destroyed the fine school building at MaryD during the spring of 1915. The building was occupied at the time of the fire by

175 pupils. The fire was caused by a defective flue, and, when discovered by Frank Jack, the entire roof was ablaze, and there was some difficulty in getting the pupils out the school building. Much credit is due the teachers, George Bensinger, of Palo Alto, who was principal, and Misses Tuite and Brighthaupt, assistants, whose good judgment prevented a panic, and who got the children out on the street without even an injury to any of them, although there was great excitement.

History of Mahanoy Township

(From "Pottsville Republican"—"Morning Paper," January 15-23, 1935)

Under the supervision of LeRoy MacFarland, head of the Social Studies department of Mahanoy Township Senior High School, this history of Mahanoy Township was prepared by the following: General History, Ruth Hall; Boston Run, Ellen Lally; St. Nicholas Breaker, Bernadette Connelly; Buck Mountain, George Bell; Coles, Gerald Davis; Ellangowan, Miss Mary Broderick, High School Librarian and Kathryn Jennings; Foundry Row, Dorothy Moyer; Jacksons, Mary Quinn and Anna Streisel; Maple Hill, Anna Blickley and Betty Malloy; New Boston and Morea, John Bebel; Park Place, Helen Casper; Suffolk, Mary Shaner; Vulcan, Ruth Dresch; Mahanoy Township High School, Francis Guinan and Marcia Morfing; Student Council, Delmar Schreppe; A Family of Interest, Rita Barney; Peddler's Grave, Della Romanavage.

I. Beginnings

Mahanoy Township was formed from Rush Township in 1849. It is bounded by five townships—West Mahanoy, Union, East Union, Rush and Ryan.

The first person to settle was a German named Reisch who came to the site of Mahanoy City in 1791. During the next years others came, among whom were Henry Ketner, Henry Schaeffer, Samuel May, John Eisenboth, Daniel Brobst and Erastus Williams. First store was opened in 1861 in St. Nicholas by Smith and Krebs.

II. The People

From earliest times Mahanoy Township has been characterized by a wide range of nationalities. Practically every nation of Europe is represented by one or more families. There is one colored family in the Township, the Harvey family of Morea.

There are no Chinese, Japanese or Jewish residents in Mahanoy Township.

III. Industry

The chief industry of the Mahanoy Township section is coal mining. The St. Nicholas colliery was

opened in 1861. In that year, St. Nicholas was first settled. At that time St. Nicholas included what is now St. Nicholas, Wiggans and Suffolk. In 1861 Coke and Guise commenced mining operations. The same year North Mahanoy, Primrose and Copley collieries were opened.

Glendon colliery was opened in 1860; Boston Run, 1862; Schuylkill, Tunnel Ridge and Bear Run, 1863; and New Boston, West Lehigh, Suffolk and Knickerbocker in 1864.

Many changes and improvements have been made in this industry since operations first began. The latest changes are found in the new St. Nicholas Central Breaker. The coal from nearly every P. & R. C. & I. Co. colliery goes through this large breaker before it goes to the market.

In the year 1929 the Phila. Reading Coal and Iron Co. decided to build a central breaker, which was to be located in the vicinity of St. Nicholas. The first step taken was to remove the one row of houses, which was nearly one half the village of Suffolk.

In August, 1929, people occupying those houses received notices from

the company to move. After they had moved, in a short while the houses were torn down.

After the removal of the houses they built the new bridge which is now in use at St. Nicholas. The work of the bridge was completed in 1931. After completing the bridge they immediately fenced in the ground which the breaker would occupy. Shortly after this the real work of the breaker was begun. They also made tracks for cars in which coal would be stored. This is widely known as the stockyards. At each end of the stockyards a set of lights was erected, in order that the coal may be viewed by night.

The breaker was completed in 1932. The new construction did away with two old breakers.

The new construction was able to hire only half the men which were employed at the other two breakers.

At various times there have been strikes and labor disputes in the coal fields. Several strikes and suspensions have occurred in the last three decades. The most important strike occurred in 1902. This strike was characterized by violence. In some sections surrounding Mahanoy Township it was necessary for troops to quell the uprisings.

The coal regions are greatly affected by the world wide business depression. The miners and all employees are fighting hard for a "square deal." Various attempts have been made to stop the working of several collieries. In general, the attempts have not been very successful. However, in the summer of 1933 the unemployed coal workers showed their power. At that time the coal company decided to make a strippings near Jacksons. This would necessitate the destruction of several homes. Immediately the unemployed men began to picket the stripping workers and work was stopped. The "pickets"

established several camps along the Mahanoy City-Jacksons road.

IV. Churches

Four churches take care of the religious and moral development of the residents of Mahanoy Township—a Protestant Union Church in both Park Place and St. Nicholas, a Roman Catholic Church in Ellangowen, and a Protestant church in Yatesville.

The Yatesville church is owned by the Methodist Episcopal Church of Shenandoah. The church does not support a pastor of its own. The parishioners attend Sunday School in the small church and on Sunday night they attend church services in the church at Shenandoah.

The first St. Nicholas church, erected in 1874, was destroyed by fire in November, 1922. The cornerstone for the new edifice was laid in September, 1923, and the church was dedicated, September, 1924.

The Ellangowen Church—St. Aidan's R. C.—was destroyed by fire in August, 1933. At present the church services are conducted in the large rectory in Ellangowen. As yet, work has not been started on a new building.

The spirit of the people has been shown on two occasions in particular. First, the efforts put forth by the St. Aidan's parish for the purpose of collecting money for the benefit of the church. Second, the accomplishment, by the people of the St. Nicholas Union Church, of paying off a debt exceeding \$25,000, plus interest, in ten years. On October 29, 1933, a jubilee was held and the church mortgage burned.

V. Improvements

There have been many varied improvements in and about the homes, since the communities were first settled. Until as late as 1920 many of the roads were dirt. During the third decade some of these dirt roads were tarred and stoned.

The water system that is in existence was unknown in our grandparents' day. They often had to carry their drinking water, as well as the water for the family wash and other household cleaning, a distance of a mile or more even in the coldest weather. Then, the water wasn't purified like our water. It came from springs on the mountains.

Until the third decade kerosene lamps were used for lighting. At present in Boston Run there is only one family that does not have an electric lighting system.

About 42 years ago the trolley cars began to run in the Township. In some communities the trolley cars ran so close to the homes that the people, by leaning out their bedroom windows, could touch them as they passed by.

VI. Beauty Spots

The beauty spots of Mahanoy Township are a contrast to ugly coal banks.

A beautiful twenty-two room house stands between Suffolk and Patriotic Hill. It is built on a hill which adds to its attractiveness.

Another beauty spot is the Lincoln building—a central elementary school, located between Morea and New Boston.

The crowning beauty of Mahanoy Township is the high school building. The beautiful structure from a distance resembles the government building in Washington.

VII. Schools

The high school not only stands for a beauty spot in the district but it is also a symbol of the improvements made in educational facilities.

For years the two room high school at Coles was the only opportunity offered for high school students. Then in 1916 the large high school was built. The Board of Education comprised: Pres., Frank B. Patterson; Vice Pres., Pat-

rick Fahey; Secty., George Bennett; Treas., John Jones; Directors, Wm. Adamson, Jos. Striesel and Alex. Bradley.

Dr. Jos. F. Noonan, superintendent of school was superintendent at the time of the erection of the building. The teachers were few and the students were also few. However, the enrollment has gradually increased and in 1933 it became necessary to construct an annex at the east end of the building. Before the annex was made the high school students had no access to a gymnasium nor any facilities for physical education. The new high school has all modern equipment and is a first class school.

Improvements have also been made in the elementary schools.

The cold "little red school house" no longer exists. The Lincoln building is fashioned after the high school and the other elementary schools have been improved by the installation of modern heating systems, fountains and improved teaching equipment.

The changes must be attributed to Superintendent Joseph F. Noonan and the School Board which at present includes: Pres., Conrad Dresch; Vice-Pres., William R. Miller; Secty., James H. Redclift; Treas., Peter McGroarty; Directors, Michael Whitaker, Martin E. Jennings, Andrew Hyland.

Harry Loeb is the tax receiver of Mahanoy Township.

Mahanoy Township has made its contribution to Schuylkill County both politically and socially and is prepared to make still greater contributions in the future.

BOSTON RUN

Within the last twenty years Boston Run underwent many changes. The entire location was changed also the source of water and many other things.

Boston Run was first built because a breaker and mines situated in that territory was prospering. Naturally a few homes were first built so the men could be near their work. Gradually new homes were built and people began moving to work in surrounding territory.

The breaker was situated on top of a coal bank and the homes were built at the bottom of the bank. The homes were rather crude. They did not have running water and they used lamps for light. The women walked a mile for their water.

They were rather closed in, being at the bottom of a bank and used the trains, which passed near by for travelling. With the introduction of constructing highways through rural communities the location of Boston Run was changed. A highway was constructed about a thousand feet from the houses and the people wishing to be near the highway began building homes near the road.

The people who lived at the foot of the bank moved over to the other homes. These new homes were much better than the old ones. They had electric lights installed and running water, which eliminated the walking to wells.

Boston Run now holds about twenty-five homes, two families living in a block. The highway runs through the community with homes on both sides.

BUCK MOUNTAIN

According to Mr. Moxion, the oldest man in the community, the breaker at Buck Mountain had been in operation in the year of 1889. The latter part of 1899 the first colliery burned down due to a spark of fire uniting with the dry wood on the building. In 1892

the second colliery was built and was in operation for eight years. In 1900 the L. V. Coal Company placed a large colliery which is at present idle.

People in the eighteen hundreds used trained horses or mules to do most of their work. The people had one purpose in mind when they moved to this new community, they would always have work and happiness in the future. They had to walk, in some cases, to get their food from Mahanoy City.

There still remains a Buck Mountain in Carbon County. The reason this name New Buck Mountain is given was to give the different meaning between both Buck Mountains. The people who at present are residing in New Buck Mountain had brought this name to this new country. Later they had forgotten the word "New" and only called it merely Buck Mountain. The year, the first family located was in 1855. The family was Irish in nationality. The name was Mrs. Coll. She has since died, but this information was received from her relatives. Mrs. Nolan was another.

The first school was established in the year of 1888. There were only two rooms in this school. Since then the school was built on top of the mountain. It was about the center of the lower patch. This was due to the population being greater in the lower end of the community. The exact year was 1898. Later this was burned down. It wasn't until 1920 when the people of Buck Mountain received a new building which at present is still standing. The students that had been taught in these grades had to walk down to Coles because that was the high school at the time. The persons of the past who went to school had no opportunity as we do because they had no buses to take them to school.

They were the pioneers who had to go through all sorts of weather in order to gain knowledge. Those who had wealth stored up had bought horses for their sons and daughters so as to save their energy and also they thought it would tend to give them more "pep" in doing their day's work in school. The people state that they had terrible storms here, storms which carried many a home for a mile.

Between 1855 to 1865 is found the beginning of improvement of the school system. It was in 1859 when the tunnel was actually being built. This tunnel was completed and in operation in the year of 1862. The length of the tunnel is one mile long. From 1862 to 1875 the people improved the home conditions. Roads were constructed for traffic. In these ten years leaders were elected. Then came a Union. From 1875 to 1885 there was a movement for the preserving of the forest. From 1885 to 1895 the first red school house burned down. In 1892, carpenters were at work building another school house with better protection against fires but this one still remains as a home instead of a school house. From 1895 to 1905, the first auto came to Buck Mountain.

From 1905 to 1915, the "real up to date breaker" was put into operation at Buck Mountain. 1915 to 1925 found the politicians making speeches on elections. Since 1925 to 1934, the population has been decreasing. The great event during these ten years was the closing of the colliery. The people believed that it would open up but now they have lost hope.

The inhabitants include Russians, Poles, Lithuanians, Irish, Dutch and Germans.

COLES

In the year 1900 the first public

high school of Mahanoy Township was built in Coles Patch. Its first teacher was John Coyle, and its superintendent Frank Noonan. This school was to accomodate all the children from the Township district. It was an immense structure made of blocks of rock as a foundation and heavy timber for the building part of it. It was surrounded by trees and green grass. This school was used for many years until the new high school in Mahanoy City took its place.

Then another school was built in the vicinity of Coles, next to the old high school. In this school, which remains to this day, the first teacher was Dan Guinan who later became superintendent of the Mahanoy Township District. This school was to accomodate only the children from Coles Patch who were not old enough to go to the high school. In this school there were two rooms. These two rooms each had three grades and the teachers there had to teach three grades at one time. This was done by giving work to one grade and then going on to the next, etc. Then in a later period (about 1925-26) one room was abandoned (on account of the lack of pupils) and six grades were in one room for one teacher. The teacher who had the six grades in one room to teach was Miss Purcell.

ELLANGOWEN

About a century ago, the Pennsylvania Land, Title and Improvement Company sent a representative Samuel Everett, to clear the ground and build a home to the extreme western part of the present Mahanoy Township. For, at one time Mahanoy Township embraced West Mahanoy Township also. The present name of the settlement is Ellangowen. The nearest neighboring town was Pottsville.

The land was cleared and Mr. Everett built a log house, constructed in such a substantial manner that it remained standing until a short time ago. The building was a long, one-story house with tiny windows and an immense fireplace.

The region abounded in wild game such as bears and deer. In the vernacular of Mr. Everett, he and his family lived on "bear meat and deer meat."

After Mr. Everett came, other representatives followed. Prospectors interested in finding rich veins of anthracite, founded the surrounding villages; Fowlers, Jacksons, Phillips, now Suffolk, and Cakes or S^r. Nicholas.

A school house, called the Maple Dale School, was built near Mr. Everett's home and his daughter, Kate Everett, was the teacher. The children from the neighboring villages attended this school.

A man by the name of Fisher opened and drove a drift at Ellangowen about 1860. Later a man by the name of Lanigan took it over and then called it Maple Dale. Frank Daniels was superintendent, John Beach outside foreman, and Dave Morgan, inside foreman. When the Reading Company took over the place they sank a shaft. Bill Broughall had the contract to sink the shaft, and when it was finished he was made inside foreman. Mr. Broughall came from Tuscarora to Maple Dale, and Dave Morgan was sent to West Shenandoah colliery in Shenandoah. Franklin B. Gowen was then president of the Reading Company and the name was changed from Maple Dale to Ellangowen in honor of Mr. Gowen's wife, Ellan Gowen.

Patrick Galvin, who lived on Bunker Hill, was the first man to start the new shaft. He was top man until they began to hoist coal.

In 1877 the breaker burned down,

and when the shaft was finished the coal was sent overland by locomotive to Fowlers, which is now known as Knickerbocker colliery with Herman Gilfert as engineer.

In those days all the houses in Ellangowen were built from timber on the mountain side. There was a saw mill at the breaker and all the lumber used in building the houses was sawed there. The Everett brothers were the wood choppers; Jim Keefe was the log team driver who hauled in the timber with a 4-mule team. Henry Sampsel was the sawyer, and Joe Singley and his son Albert were his assistants.

During the brush fire of 1877, 13 houses which stood where Maple Hill side tracks are now, burned down. One house is still standing. Some of the people who sustained loss in this fire were Martin Carroll, Tom Fogarty, Ed. Mitchell, Phillip Cartwright, Jim McNulty, Bill Greener, John Hamburger, Henry Sampsel, Joe Singley, Patk. McGonigle, Joe Barzaite better known as Adam Showers. He was the first foreigner to come to Ellangowen.

There was a seven month strike in 1875. That was when the Reading Company took over the place. The employees accepted a \$2.50 basis with a sliding scale. This meant that if coal sold for \$2.50 a ton there was nothing taken off the miners' wages. If coal sold for less than \$2.50 there was so much percentage taken off the miners' wages. For every \$.10 the coal dropped the miners wages dropped 3c. If the coal sold above \$2.50 the miners wages were to be increased on the same scale. Slate pickers began in the breaker at \$2.50 per week.

In 1887, the miners formed a union, called the Laborers' Amalgamated Association. In 1888 the Knights of Labor took hold, and the wages increased.

The Lenigh region went on strike in September, 1888. In December the railroaders went on strike and the miners went on strike in sympathy with them. In February, 1889 the strike was declared off, with the miners acceptance of a 22 per cent reduction. Austin Corbin was then President of the Reading Co.

John Mitchell came here in 1895 and tried to organize the United Mine Workers of America. John Fahey and other organizers came here with him. Not much impression was made on this region at that time; but the upper regions responded quite readily. In 1900, a general strike was called. It took affect in the Wilkes Barre and Scranton districts for a week or two. Then it spread all over the region and all the Reading Co. collieries were called out. When the strike was called in this region some of the men responded; but others did not. The strike was over, Oct. 29, 1900. This is the day set aside for the observance of Mitchell Day.

The miners in this region were working for 3 per cent. below the basis at that time. Mitchell demanded a 10 per cent. increase. The operators rejected the proposal. When the strike was on about 2 weeks the operators posted notices of a 3 per cent. increase. The miners would not accept. The next week notices were published for a 6 per cent. increase. Still the miners refused. Two weeks later the 10 per cent. increase that John Mitchell demanded was granted plus the 6 per cent. the operators offered the miners, which gave them an increase of 16 per cent.

The miners worked under these conditions until 1902, when Mitchell demanded a 10 per cent. increase and an 8 hour day. The pre-

vious contract expired April 1, 1902, and in order to give the operators a chance to consider the above proposal the men worked until May 10, 1902. Then John Mitchell called out all the miners and laborers. In July of that year all the maintenance men were called out. The strike was settled the latter part of October, 1902.

Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States, was appealed to by John Mitchell, to intervene. He got the operators to consent to the decision of an arbitration board appointed by him. Both the parties consented to this plan. The first arbitration board the President appointed was objected to by John Mitchell. Roosevelt appointed another board favorable to both sides. When the arbitration board was appointed, the miners went to work under the condition that any decision made by the arbitration board would be reactionary to Jan. 1, 1903. The arbitration board gave to the miners (a) a 10 per cent. increase (b) a 9 hour day; (c) an 8 hour day to firemen and water hoist engineers.

EARLY SETTLERS

The populations of Ellangowen in the early '60's was composed for the most part of English, Irish, Welsh and a few Germans. The Slavs, Lithuanians, Poles, and others came into this region about 1878.

Samuel Everett was the first settler in this section. He lived on a well cultivated farm in a log house, and had a slaughter house here. Some of the other settlers here were Mosey Leary, the first stable boss, Chas. McKenna, Chas. Hughes, Patrick Dolphin, John and Michael Muldoon, Corrigan Family, Tracey family, Nickey Burke, Nich-

olas Didyoung, Michael Neary, Patrick Kearns, Patrick Giblon, John Coughlin, Mike Leonard, John Leahy, later moved to Flour Barrel, now called Maizeville, George Brown, John Broderick, Wm. Broderick, Patrick Shaughnessy, "Black" Jack Monahan, Dan Bradley, Darby Burns, Geo. Frost, Geo. Becker, Bankes family, Jim Shirey, J. B. Hawley, Bill Bennett, Millward family, Jimmy Bolton, Bob Yarnell, Mike Riley, Nicholas family.

FOUNDRY ROW

Before the present row of homes, which goes under the name of Foundry Row, was built an old stone foundry occupied the entire space taken up by these twenty houses. This stone foundry was owned and operated by Mr. Wren and Mr. Lee. In the rear of the foundry were ware houses, a pattern shop, a screen shop, and a two room office. A little to the rear on the right was a two story house. In 1921 Arthur Lutz and Company bought the land and tore down the old foundry. A short time after they began to break the earth and to construct the homes. These twenty homes still go under the name of Foundry Row, after the old stone foundry.

JACKSONS

The mining village of Jacksons, which is about two miles from Mahanoy City, began about 1860. Prior to that coal was discovered and a band of Yankees from Maine formed a corporation known as the McNeil Coal and Iron Co. They then built two breakers and started a colliery known as Jacksons Colliery. The general manager was

Mr. Jackson, after whom the place was named.

Mr. Jackson began construction by erecting a big barn and a house for his own use. The barn was used for the purpose of housing the animals, which consisted of two oxen, twenty mules, and one horse, belonging to the Jackson's Colliery. His dwelling is still standing and at present is being occupied by three families. His barn was remodeled and is now used as a dwelling, housing five families.

The next house was built for his daughter, later on a slaughter house was built and a home for the people employed there. The next houses were built near the Lehigh Valley Railroad, three-fourths of a mile away. These homes were occupied by men employed on the railroad.

A contractor working on a project for the colliery made himself a home which is still occupied. It is situated north of the main part of the patch now known as Foots.

After years of service General Manager Jackson was removed and Captain Yates took his place. He erected buildings about a half mile away from Jacksons. Jacksons was also included in this village and it was then called Yatesville in honor of Captain Yates. It included what is now Yatesville, Jacksons, Barrys and Robinsons. After that came Mr. Robinson who gave Robinsons its name. John White then came as a "lessee" from the McNeil Coal and Iron Co. to operate the colliery for twenty-five years, but it was only operated three years. The McNeil tract of land was composed of 533 acres. The Reading Co., in 1874, gained possession of the tract and tore down Jacksons colliery. They then worked from Yatesville colliery, later known as Knickerbocker colliery.

In 1865 more houses were built west of where the school stands. The houses erected east of the school were completed in 1873. This was still known as Yatesville until the people had the name changed back to Jacksons in honor of Mr. Jackson.

The chief occupation of the people is mining since it was founded up to the present day.

The first school house was built on a hill in back of the houses in 1865 but this was taken in by the mines. The first teachers in this building were Mr. and Mrs. Hartnut. Later another school was built about a hundred yards east of that one in 1887. This was burned down. After this another school was constructed but it was burnt down in 1920. Jacksons has now one of the finest schools in the Township, known as the Washington Building.

MAPLE HILL

Maple Hill, a village having 24 homes and 134 residents, was settled after the Maple Hill Colliery assumed operation in 1892.

In 1891, the first shaft was sunk. A Pottsville man named Dolan had the contract to drive the first tunnel while a contractor from Mt. Carmel had the contract to sink the shaft. This shaft, familiarly known as No. 1 shaft, is 1750 feet deep.

The first engineer to work at No. 1 shaft was J. Coughlin. Later on, when two shifts were organized, Dan Evans and Wm. Linkhorst were employed there.

Chas. Portland had the contract for No. 2 shaft, which is 1000 feet deep. The first engineers to work at No. 2 shaft were Jas. Ryan, Robt. Hoffman and Ralph Brown.

The first settlement in Maple Hill was made in 1895, when Wm. Linkhorst and his family moved to the small village, soon followed by

other men who wished to be near the colliery.

Some of the first settlers were: Dan Evans, Wm. Sykes, Geo. Howells, Thos. Myers, Jas. MacDonald, Thos. Williams, Wm. Linkhorst, Gwyllym Jones, Wm. Dowling, John Shirey, Harry Henninger, Thos. Manion, Patrick Hyland and Wes Lindenmuth.

Reese Tasker was the first inside foreman, while Thos. Williams, an early settler, was the first outside foreman. Wes Lindenmuth was the first engineer on the water shaft. Jas. Wildes was employed when the authorities decided to have two engineers.

On Jan. 15, 1906, the citizens of Maple Hill were startled by the appearance of flames in the home of Thos. Feely. People rushed to the scene of fire hoping to be of help, but the victims barely escaped. Anna and Margaret Feely were found to be missing. All attempts to rescue them were hopeless and the two children perished in the flames. George Campbell, who lived in the adjoining house, lost his home also, in the fury of the flames.

The school house at Maple Hill was erected in 1906. Miss Mary Jennings was the first teacher in the new building. Since then, the following teachers have been employed at Maple Hill: Ada Hales, Ruth Sult, Phoebe Jones and Elia Brennan, who is the present teacher.

In 1907, the school was threatened by fire, but the united attempts of various residents saved the building from destruction.

Modern improvements in the way of electric lights and running water have been installed recently.

Several brush fires have taken place in the region of Maple Hill,

but foremost in all minds is the fire which took place on April 19, 1928.

Early in the afternoon, a few men noticed a blaze which was near the Pennsylvania Railroad. Men banded together and ran to the scene of the blaze, after notifying the teacher at the school house to be prepared to dismiss the students at the first sign of danger.

At first, the people thought that the blaze would be quenched in a short time; but they had not noticed that a brisk wind was blowing, fanning the flames into a determined fury. Soon the woods were afire, extending from Maple Hill to Ellangowen. All school children were dismissed and they sought refuge in a delayed transportation bus.

Flying sparks set the homes of Andrew Romanavage and Mrs. Ellen Henninger afire. The children of these families saw their homes burn to the ground.

About 4:30 p. m. the flames subsided. Practically every home was damaged to some extent. For weeks everyone was greatly upset, and found it difficult to rest with contented minds. Fortunately, no one was seriously injured.

One of the greatest curiosities among the early settlers of Maple Hill was a wireless telegraph machine constructed by Wm. Souberry, an engineer at Maple Hill Colliery. By means of the Morse Code, he could jot down messages, and could get the baseball scores sent over the air waves. Many citizens found it difficult to believe that such a thing was possible, and were not satisfied until they had seen this curiosity with their own eyes.

Wm. Souberry was greatly interested in mechanical devices, and, at present, a toy engine, of his construction, is in the possession of an early settler of this community.

Communication and transportation are problems to be considered by every community, and they faced the citizens of this small section. In 1914, the first street car, or trolley car, as they were popularly called, traveled through Maple Hill enroute, from Mahanoy City to Shenandoah.

For quite a while afterwards, one of the chief amusements of the community was a ride in the trolley car. It was quite common for adults to take their children for a trolley car ride on a Sunday afternoon. Buses took the place of street cars about 1927, when regular trips and routes were assigned.

Recently telephone service has been given attention. Five families have had telephones installed, during the past year.

Electricity was installed in all houses in 1925, replacing the colliery service which had formerly supplied only the homes of foremen, with this convenience. The Pennsylvania Power and Light Co. assumed control of this public utility.

At the outbreak of the World War, everyone responded to calls for aid. In 1918, Maple Hill was the scene of the Red Cross social and many picnics, socials, etc. During such affairs as much as \$600.00 or \$800.00 was collected during the course of one afternoon or evening.

Many changes have taken place in Maple Hill, since the days when the settlement began. Early settlers have changed their abode, moving to distant towns or cities, while others have died during the 39 years of settlement.

At present Mrs. Linkhorst, Maple Hill's first resident, is the only early settler still residing there. Dan Evans, one of the first men to take up an abode in Maple Hill, is the only living resident still working. He has been an employee at Maple Hill Colliery for 41 years.

Many changes have been made at the colliery. For example, the breaker, which was constructed in 1893, has been torn down and all work of that type is carried on at the St. Nicholas breaker.

A modern and well equipped boiler house has been constructed to replace the older and less efficient construction. Both the new breaker and boiler house have been erected during the past two years.

Mrs. Linkhorst and Dan Evans were helpful in securing information concerning the history of Maple Hill, in response to assignments concerning this region.

NEW BOSTON AND MOREA

Until the school term of 1920, the children of Morea, New Boston and Vulcan had been going to one room school houses. In 1919, a modern brick school building was erected between Morea and New Boston. The one room schools were abandoned and they began going to the new building, which was named the Abraham Lincoln School.

New Boston did away with their old school house in 1929. The Morea old school still stands. Between the years 1928 and 1932 it was used as a movie and vaudeville house. It is being used at present as a meeting hall for the United Mine Workers and as an election poll.

PARK PLACE

Park Place was named by the government through the mail. This village was owned by the Lentz Lilly and Company. Park Place Colliery was built about the year 1864, it burned down in 1895. It took all winter to rebuild it, and it was finished in May, 1896.

Mr. Myers was the first outside boss at the colliery while Mr. Stack-et was a superintendent. The company store was in operation at this

time. When the store was in full swing it took a person several hours to get waited on. The goods were transported to the people by a wagon and mules. A railroad was built to the back of the store in which the shipment of the goods to and from the store was made. The store manager, was Wm. Swartz; the assistant manager, Mr. Clarkson and the general manager, book-keeper and paymaster was Chas. Butler. The first post-office was located in the store and was later moved to a house when the store went out of business.

Three house stood opposite the store occupied by Swartz, Clarkson and Butler. Two are still there.

Myers, a village which got the name from the outside foreman. Mr. Myers had three houses in its vicinity. There were three houses east of Myers. Ryan, Clark and Caplin lived in these.

The Park Place dam above Park on the road to Girard Manor was built by Contractor Mr. Gorman, of Mahanoy City.

A six months' strike broke out in 1902, and another in 1925. There was an old saw mill in the back of the colliery.

The first road was an old, muddy, rutty road across the hill and came out at Primrose, but the road today, a well paved road, runs from Mahanoy City to Park Place.

The modern electric lights have taken the place of the oil lamp and illuminates the village street.

SUFFOLK

In 1868 the mining village of Suffolk was made up of 42 families. All the men and boys of the community were employed at the Suffolk Colliery so you see they had to abide by the slogan, "Buy—Burn—Boost—Anthracite," in order to make a living.

This village received its name from the Suffolk Coal Co., which owned the homes and colliery in the 18th century. The Suffolk breaker was located where the present St. Nicholas breaker now stands. John Phillips was the superintendent of the colliery and was one of the most outstanding citizens of the community.

There was one general store in Suffolk which was owned by James DeLong. This was the only store in the neighborhood. Mr. DeLong was another outstanding citizen of the village.

The school house, consisting of one large room, was located at the present site of the new breaker gateway. This school room was the scene of many happy gatherings, such as balls, tea parties, dances, and many other amusements. Every one had a joyous time at such meetings because the inhabitants of Suffolk all lived as one large happy family. A school room was later located on the opposite side in the same place as the one there today, which is more modern, consisting of three rooms.

In 1874, by the united effort of the people of St. Nicholas, a church was erected in Suffolk. Around it centered the religious and social life of St. Nicholas until its destruction by fire, Nov. 10, 1922.

Undismayed by their misfortune the congregation made immediate plans for the building of a new church, and on May 1, 1923, the ground was broken. The corner stone was laid on Sept. 23, 1923, and on Sept. 28, 1924, the dedication ceremonies were held.

L. J. Wentz supervised the work of laying the foundation, which was performed by men of the community. The polishing of the concrete was the work of John Eagan.

Ralph Barnhardt was the contractor in charge of the building, which was built on day's wages, at the union rate for labor.

The bell now in use on the new church was presented to the congregation in 1874 by John Phillips and has been in constant use since.

John Phillips sold the Suffolk Colliery to the Phila. Reading Coal and Iron Co. He then moved to Pottsville and lived retired. The people of Suffolk missed him greatly because he was always the leader of all social gatherings.

The older generation have all passed away, although their children still occupy the homes of their parents. But one would wonder what became of the 23 families who were compelled to move five years ago to make way for the St. Nicholas Central Breaker.

Ordered out by the Reading Coal Co., these families had to find a new locality in which to reside.

The store owned by Jas. DeLong in the 19th century and later in the 20th century owned by W. R. Adamson had to be torn down four years ago in order for the concrete bridge to be built. Thus an outstanding citizen of Suffolk in the 20th century was also compelled to find a new home.

Immediate action to erect both breaker and bridge took place and we have the Suffolk of today composed of 19 families, a union church, and the St. Nicholas Central Breaker, also the Mahanoy Township elementary school house.

VULCAN

Vulcan might be called a suburb of Mahanoy City. It is one of the many so-called "patches" throughout the Mahanoy Township and one of the smallest, having a population of approximately 200.

Vulcan was a group of houses built for the employes in the mines by the coal company. The first breaker was owned and operated by the Mill Creek Co. In 1911 the old breakers of Vulcan and Buck Mountain were torn down and combined into a new modern steel breaker at Vulcan. At this time Vulcan gained an addition to its populace. The Lehigh Valley Coal Co., which operated the new breaker built the "new patch," down between the coal banks to the right of Vulcan. The inhabitants are of varied nationalities.

At the present time the mines are idle. It is necessary for the people to get their water supply from Park Place across the mountain to Vulcan.

The Mahanoy Township supplies buses to transport the students to and from school. The elementary grades are at the Lincoln School near New Boston while the high school is in Mahanoy City.

Vulcan, as you know, was the god of fire who was crippled when the angered Jupiter threw him from heaven to earth. Perhaps, after all, at this time, it is a very appropriate name.

MAHANOEY TWP. HIGH SCHOOL

The beautiful white building on the hill on the southern border of Mahanoy City is the home of the Mahanoy Township High School, which is attended by pupils from all parts of the township and surrounding districts.

This building was built in 1916 and the first school in it had as a total 75 pupils and three teachers.

On July 1, 1918, the state recognized the Mahanoy Township school as a high school. Previous to that time there was no recognized high school, but there was a school in

Coles known as the Coles High School.

The Mahanoy Township school building fifty years ago had but one large room and, where pupils were numerous enough, contained two teachers one at each end of the room. The assistant teacher took the beginners and classes up to the third reader grade.

There was a strong preference for men teachers at that time, because they could keep order in the school and they made daily use of the switch or rod or strap in aweing noisy boys into silence.

The course of study did not include much more than the three R's. The "fifth reader" was the highest grade, and pupils went "through" history, geography, spelling and grammar, and as far as they could in arithmetic each term, and the next term started again with the same books. In this way, the frequent reviews served as clinchers, and some pupils became very thorough in their studies.

In Mahanoy Township there was a strong line up of intellectual men teachers. They were dominating characters in the classroom. They knew something thoroughly and developed into thinkers.

Parents who now have children going to school will recall some leading men teachers in Mahanoy Township—A. J. O'Connor, John F. Dolphin, Michael Whitaker, Martin Whitaker, John C. Noonan, John Coughlin, and a Mr. Davis of Centuria and Frank J. Noonan.

These men mastered most of their studies at home, some of them learning more out of school than they were taught in school.

Things have now changed. New ideas and new methods in teaching indicate that the schools are keeping pace with the march of invention.

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

The first improvement in school buildings was to divide the large room into two rooms—one for the principal, and a separate room for the assistant. Countless improvements followed until now Mahanoy Township High School stands out as one of the finest in Pennsylvania.

The recognition of the high school took place under the leadership of Dr. Jos. F. Noonan.

Dr. Noonan, a graduate of Millersville State Teachers' College with the degrees of bachelor of pedagogy and master of pedagogy has been superintendent of Mahanoy Township public schools for the past twenty-one years. After completing a business and commercial course at Pennsylvania Business College in Lancaster, he entered Muhlenberg College, receiving from that institution the degree of Bachelor of philosophy. His quest for further knowledge resulted in his taking courses at Pennsylvania State College and Columbia University. Dr. Noonan earned the degree of master of arts and doctor of philosophy in the graduate School of Education at New York University. During his career Dr. Noonan has served as grade teacher, high school teacher, special supervisor, high school principal, supervising principal, college instructor, and institute lecturer. In 1928 he was elected president of the Pennsylvania State Education Association. His constant research work in improving instruction has been the cause of the steady advancement of the Mahanoy Township public schools in educational fields for the past twenty years.

During the early years of the high school only straight academic work was presented, there being no differentiated curricula. But as the years have elapsed, new types of educational opportunities were be-

ing presented to the students. It was not until 1925 that any of these educational opportunities were presented. It was this year that the school provided the students with four curricula, namely: College Preparatory, Stenographic, Mathematical Scientific and the Elective Course. At the same time the student was gradually introduced to the fine arts such as instrumental music, vocal music, cultural art.

In the year 1930 sound pictures were introduced, presenting to the students various types of pictures that appeal generally to the intellect, the emotions and the moral sense.

New equipment is added to the departments every successive year. Thus these extra-educational activities have resulted in an increase in enrollment which has increased from 75 in the year 1916 to 642 in 1932.

The faculty staff, which has risen from three teachers to that of twenty seven, twenty-three of whom are regular curricular teachers and four of whom teach special subjects, is also the result of extra educational activities.

Then came the greatest achievement in the years 1933-1934. A new addition has been added to the building. Here the physical education of the students will enable them to develop their bodies, and a cafeteria, which will eliminate all cares of lunches. Many new classrooms will provide the students more opportunities. Furthermore, it is hoped that the Mahanoy Twp. high school will build a stadium at the west end for further athletic improvement.

At the present time there is a Senior High Mixed Glee Club under the supervision of Miss Marjorie Bone.

The Glee clubs participate in programs and often contribute various vocal arrangements in morning exercises. At the Annual Music Concert the Glee clubs stage an entertaining and varied program. In 1932 the Senior High Girls' Glee competed with other schools at a contest conducted at Pittsburgh where they received the honor of winning second prize for their state. In 1933, however, they were determined to bring the laurel of first prize back with them. It was a great honor when they captured the first prize at Sunbury.

The Mahanoy Township high school art department is equipped with the best available material.

Every year since 1922 the Mahanoy Township entered the health contest sponsored by the Anti-Tuberculosis Society of Schuylkill County. The students each year have had the honor of winning several awards. Since that time the senior high won ten first prizes, five second prizes, and two third prizes. At the end of the school term the art department gives public exhibitions of the work accomplished during the year.

Each year the school has entrants in the Oratorical Contest conducted in Pennsylvania. In 1926 Ethel Brown won county championship while Roy Brill won the first place in the Eastern Pennsylvania district in 1929. Oratorical Contests, Oratory and Debating are sponsored by Mr. MacFarland. The Debating team in the year 1931 had the honor of winning county championship.

In 1933 the Mahanoy Township high school band became prominent. The boys participating in this group attend many community and school functions. Each year there is a contest in which the Mahanoy Township Band competes with other schools in the state.

The school newspaper, the "Leader" was organized in 1923. About two years ago the Mahanoy Township received honorable awards at the Newspaper Convention in New York.

Student council was organized in the year 1924 by the present principal, J. J. Morfing, and since then it has flourished into one of the most active organizations in the school. It is the highest form of student representation, by which the students may participate in governing school affairs. It includes the presidents of the various classes, clubs and home rooms, therefore it comprises the students' own choice.

The four upper classes, freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior, each elect two members to represent them in a so-called Executive Committee. The president of the council is speaker of the committee. The principal is faculty advisor and makes suggestions as to the passing of classes and order in lining up.

A Family of Interest

Amid the mountains and nestled in coal banks, we find the little village Morea. It is the only village in the Township having a resident negro family.

Looking back many years, a train is seen Morea bound from Virginia, carrying as passengers, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey.

Mr. Harvey, a peaceful loving man, found employment, at the Dawson Coal Co., in Morea. He worked under Dawson, and when the Madeira and Hill corporation took over the colliery he still remained at his job, where he still is employed.

Mrs. Harvey a well reputed woman, made a wide range of friends throughout the community ever since she left her native state.

Seven children blessed the couple: William, Jordan, Elsie, Robert, John, Elijah and Jean. Only once has sorrow visited them, and that was a few years ago, when their son, Jordan, a porter on a train, died.

All their children received an education. Elsie, Robert and John are graduates of Mahanoy Township High School. They still have two children in school, Elijah in the junior high school and Jean a member of the Lincoln elementary school. The Harvey children are well mannered and seekers after knowledge. Music seems to be the aim of the boys.

Elsie graduated in 1924, and for the past few years has been teaching in a Pottsville kindergarten, for the negro children.

With the class of 1928 is found Robert. He plays the traps in several leading orchestras and is a violinist besides.

In 1931, John graduated from high school. He has a job in the Morea colliery while he frequently plays the trap drums in orchestras.

Elijah, a fine little chap, is well liked by his teachers and fellow students. His greatest interest lies in the field of music. He plays the tuba, and is a member of the township band. Often he plays tuba solos during student programs.

Jean, a member of the Lincoln school has a winsome disposition which won her the friendship of her schoolmates.

A PEDDLER'S GRAVE

(Symbol of First Murder in Schuylkill County)

The "Peddler's Grave" located alongside the public highway leading from Mahanoy City to Ringtown, across the road from the P. & R. C. & I. Company's upper Waste House Run Dam is a landmark re-

calling a brutal murder committed there on Aug. 11, 1797. Then deer, hare and small game were plentiful on the site of what is now Shenandoah, which was then a dense forest and the murderer had been stopping at a log hotel on the site of Mahanoy City for ten days previously, engaged in hunting.

The victim who here met his death by foul hand of the assassin was Jos^t Folhaber, and his sad end was met by the cupidity of the murderer, and not from any motive of hatred or revenge. Folhaber was a travelling peddler, a resident probably of some part of the mountain regions of Berks or Northumberland County, travelling by horse to Reading and Catawissa. All that is known of him is that he had a wife whose maiden name was Margaret Lindenmuth, and a sister living at Roaring Creek, then included in Northumberland County. He carried light wares of personal or domestic use, and his saddle bags were usually filled with old copper coins, the proceeds of his sales.

One of his stopping places, located several miles from other dwellings was a tavern kept by John Reich which was the first house on the site of the present borough of Mahanoy City. It stood about sixty years ago, its location being in the rear of the building of the Merchants Trust Company, at the southeast corner of Main and Center Streets. This territory was then a part of Northampton County.

On the first day of August, 1797, a well dressed and good appearing man came to Reich's place, and said he was on a hunting trip. But most likely he was there with more dangerous designs. He was Benj. Baily, 31 years of age, and a native of Morristown, New Jersey. He stayed at the tavern for ten days, the landlord agreed to take game which he would shoot as an equivalent for his board. Early on the

morning of the 11th, Jost Folhaber arrived on horseback, Baily saw him and learned of his occupation. Landlord bought some goods from Jost and his jingling saddle bags attracted Baily's attention concluding they contained a large sum of money.

Baily became acquainted with the peddler and learned from him the direction he was taking. He followed Jost unobserved intending to rob him. The peddler stopped from time to time to rest and when he reached the Wasie House Run, Baily rushed forward with the idea of robbing him but he thought Folhaber would recognize him later so he killed him by shooting him in the back. The shot had not killed him outright, Baily fearing his deed would be discovered finished the job by striking him on the head with a tomahawk. Ridding himself of his bloody clothing and placing Jost on his horse led the horse and dead rider further from the path. Baily started for the sacks expecting to find a large sum of money, he was utterly disappointed by finding them to consist of a collection of copper coins amounting to five pounds and few goods of no great value. While trying to dispose of the loot he heard some one approaching on horseback, a Mr. Clarke, also Mr. Jackson on foot. They both passed him, not suspecting anything.

On Aug. 26, Folhaber's partly decomposed body was discovered and recognized as that of the peddler's. An inquest was made by John Myer Esq., a Justice of the Peace of Hamburg. Meanwhile Baily was seen in Mifflinburg in Northumberland

County, trying to dispose of some goods in his possession and was charged with the crime. He was pursued and finally arrested in Easton, Pa. He was jailed and denied his guilt blaming Reich, but nothing could be found against Reich.

His trial began Thursday, the ninth, and ended in twenty-four hours in a verdict of guilty of wilful and deliberate murder.

He was sentenced. The death warrant was issued by Governor Mifflin on Dec. 23, making Jan. 6, 1798, as date for execution.

Baily was confined in the old jail at the corner of Fifth and Washington streets and attempted to commit suicide by opening a blood vessel with a piece of glass but was stopped.

On the day of his execution he confessed he was guilty and said he regretted that he wrongfully injured an innocent man and hoped his case would be an awful warning to all who gave way to the temptations of the devil. He was sensible of the disgrace he brought upon his parents and his wife, Sarah Bailey.

The execution took place upon the Common (now the public park) and the constabulary and military forces and between six and seven thousand people were present. Baily's last words were "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!"

The German peddler's grave was first marked by a cement headstone made by Lewis Bendrick of Jacksons and erected by Frank Thiel, Ed. Hillibush, Joseph Troy and Frank Benedict. It is visited by hundreds yearly and kept from being obliterated.

West Mahanoy Township History

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* January 23-?? 1935)

By Teachers and Pupils of West Mahanoy Twp. Public Schools

Very few of the present generation know the cause of the migration of the early settlers of West Mahanoy Township, who left the older towns of Pottsville, Minersville, Heckscherville, Tuscarora, New Philadelphia, Ashland and Shenandoah. They moved from these towns into a vast wilderness to build new homes.

When the Civil War waged early in the 60's, the United States government commandeered all the Anthracite coal for its river gunboats and ships. It took all the coal from stove to lump, or steamboat size, a size that is practically unknown today. During this time all sizes from chestnut to barley were dumped on the rock bank because they were not used by the public in the early days of Anthracite.

This seizure of coal by the government practically cornered the Anthracite market and demands from the manufacturers and the public could not be met with the existing mines.

This caused the coal operators from the lower end of the county to look to the undeveloped coal fields in Upper Schuylkill County.

The extension of the Mahanoy and Broad Mountain Railroad, later acquired by the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, gave the enterprising business man an outlet for his product. The work of opening the coal mines and building the railroads caused the growth in population.

Between the years 1863 and 1873, the people in the western part of Mahanoy Township voted in Gilberton. In 1873, Gilberton was incorporated as a borough and it was now necessary to establish a new voting place in the township. Lost Creek was selected by the court and the Lost Creek Election District was formed on Feb. 25, 1874. The members of the election board were: John Ryon, judge of election, Matthew Corrigan and Thomas B. Tweedle, inspectors.

Ask New Election District

The population had increased so rapidly south of Broad Mountain that the people living in that section petitioned the court July 6, 1874, for another election district to be known as the Frackville Election District. This petition was granted and people south of Broad Mountain, in Mahanoy Township, went to the home of John A. Lauck to vote. The first members of that election board were: Henry Parton, judge of election, Frank J. Keffer and Anthony Berdanier, inspectors.

On Tuesday, Dec. 1, 1874, the Honorable James B. Reilly presented to the court, a petition from about 125 responsible citizens of Mahanoy Township, stating that on account of the size of the township, which is 6 miles by 14 miles in extent, the inhabitants suffered from a diversity of interests, and asking that three commissioners be appointed to examine into the expediency of dividing the township. The West Mahanoy and Frackville Election Districts were to constitute

Cuyler's Nine Once Famous Baseball Team



During the early seventies, the "Cuyler's Nine" a famous baseball team of that time was organized. Patrick J. Dugan, former Superintendent of West Mahanoy Township Schools, was one of the most valuable players on the team.

The names of the people on the picture are: First row, reading left to right: Frank Flaherty, Pitcher; P. F. Dugan, Captain; Michael McAvoy, Catcher.

Second row, left to right: Bernard

Gribbin, Right Field (player standing); Michael Flaherty, Center Field; Michael Walker, First Base, Thomas Flannagan, Manager; James Smith, Fielder; Michael Delowney, Third Base; Wm. Anderson, Fielder.

Last row, standing: James Houston, Edward Delowney (now living in Girardville, Fingerboard); Patrick Gallaghen (now living in Shenandoah, on Cherry St.); John Flaherty, Thomas Walker, James Flaherty, Anthony Connel and Wm. Ebener.

a township to be called West Mahanoy Township.

The court referred the matter back to the voters and at the election held Jan. 21, 1875, the question of the division of Mahanoy Township was voted upon. The following was the vote polled: West Mahanoy, 244 for division and 9 against division; East Mahanoy, 6 for and 99 against; Frackville, 113 for and 0 against. Total: for division, 367; against division, 108; majority for division, 259.

Mahanoy Township was then divided into two townships, to be called East Mahanoy and West Mahanoy. The line of division runs north and south between Fowlers and Shenandoah. Frackville was in West Mahanoy as was also the Thomas Colliery. The formation of the township was largely due to the efforts of Mr. John Deane, of Lost Creek.

Frackville Borough Formed

On April 10, 1876, Frackville Borough was formed from West Mahanoy Township, and the people living in the remaining part of the township, south of Broad Mountain, had to come to Lost Creek to vote. This condition existed until 1924 when the citizens of the Altamont section of Frackville were granted a voting place.

West Mahanoy Township is bounded on the north by Union Township, on the south by Butler Township, Frackville and Gilberton boroughs, and on the west by Butler Township and on the east by Shenandoah borough and Mahanoy Township. Within its bounds are the villages of Lost Creek Nos. 1 and 2, Colorado, William Penn, Raven Run, Weston Place, Brownsville, Shenandoah Heights and the Altamont Section of Frackville.

The election officers on the first election board in West Mahanoy Township, held on Feb. 16, 1875, were: Patrick Monaghan, judge of election; Peter Gilroy, inspector; B. F. Barlet, minority inspector; John Dougherty and J. H. Parrot, clerks.

The first officers of the township elected Feb. 16, 1875, were: John Deane, supervisor; James Bell, treasurer; John M. Price, assessor; Charles Timmons, assistant assessor; Patrick Lavelle, auditor; Austin Bradshaw, town clerk; William J. Richards, justice of the peace; Jos. Spun, constable; Michael Casey, judge of election; M. Brown and John Delaney, inspectors.

The school directors elected were: Patrick Monaghan, Anthony Dixon, Thomas McLaughlin, Frank Kieffer, Cornelius Haggerty, James Kelly.

Township Teachers Named

The teachers appointed, Monday, Aug. 17, 1874, who after the division of Mahanoy Township were in West Mahanoy were as follows:

John Dolphin, Raven Run (Heatons) \$60 Salary; Dennis Doyle, Raven Run (Johnsons) \$70; Mary A. Dormer, Colorado, \$65; Ellen J. Boylan, Colorado, \$35; Lizzie Fogerty, Raven Run, \$35; A. J. Shortall, Connors, \$65; Hanorah Dean, Connors, \$35; Daniel Hartnett, Lost Creek, \$65; John Noonan, Lost Creek, \$35; John Dowling, Brownsville, \$65; M. J. Murphy, Superintendent, \$95.

The teachers appointed, Friday, July 30, 1875 for West Mahanoy Township were as follows: Frackville District; W. W. Wood, Principal, \$70, salary; Maggie Gallagher, \$60; Maria Mitchell, \$40; Sallie A. Dormer, \$40.

Lost Creek District; Dennis Doyle, Principal, \$70; Thomas Crosby, \$60; Daniel Hartnett, \$60; Mary A. Dormer, \$60; John Murray, \$60; Mary A. Golden, \$60; Mrs. Mary Hartnett, \$60; Hanorah Dean, \$60; Kate Langdon, \$40; Mary A. Reilly, \$40; Patrick Noon, \$35; Mary A. Clarke, \$35, Catherine Braslin, \$35, Annie Deane, \$35.

BROWNSVILLE

During the years 1865 to 1874, the village of Brownsville was called Number 3. This was due to the fact that it was built near the Number 3 colliery.

In 1874, Colonel David Percy Brown, of Pottsville, was placed in charge as General Superintendent, of the Lehigh Valley Collieries Numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4. He was an earnest worker and beloved by all his employes and friends. He was an austere looking man with an unusually soft voice and was feared by man and boy during employment hours. He smoked cigars incessantly, and it seemed that he was smoking a "stump," which matched the amputated thumb, which, tradition said, resulted from an explosion of a cannon in Pottsville, and not on the field of battle. His waist-long, white beard made him an imposing figure while going about his duties.

In 1874, the residents of Number 3 honored this man by naming the village "Brownsville."

The earliest residents, in 1865, of Lower Brownsville, was Marya Yank, who lived in a one room log cabin, near the western side of Locust Mountain Rock Bank.

The logs were cut from the forest which covered the present location of Brownsville. They were squared and notched at the ends with a hand ax. The cracks were stuffed with a mixture of mud and grass, and a crude stone chimney was erected for the stove.

There were four log cabins in the original village of Lower Brownsville. Beside Marya Yank's log cabin there was another occupied by Marya Carduff, and later occupied by Granny Mitchell and Mary Burditis, who made their living by making medicines from the herbs which they gathered on the mountain. Granny Mitchell gathered goose, duck, and chicken feathers. These she cleaned and sold to her neighbors or to the merchants in Shenandoah. The feathers were used in stuffing pillows and in making feather mattresses, things that were considered a luxury in comparison with the straw stuffed pillow and mattress. Granny Mitchell was known as a "quack doctor" and served in many emergencies, while her partner told fortunes. The Patrick Dean log house was purchased by William Baxter, in 1926, to make way for the enlargement of Locust Mountain Rock Bank. He used the logs to build a grape arbor in his garden and two of the logs can be seen in front of the Mrs. Ellen McHugh property, where they are being used as a curb.

The first residents in Upper Brownsville were Mr. and Mrs. O'Boyle. Their home was a large log house, constructed like all of the homes of that time, of timber secured in the forest close at hand. The O'Boyles kept a saloon and boarders, who worked on the construction of the breaker, mines, and later on the company houses. After the O'Boyles built their home, three other log cabins were built near where the present Weston Coal Co. office is located.

When the coal company built the company houses, the men who boarded at O'Boyle's, sent for their families and moved in the company houses. All company houses were identical in structure and design,

except the one home built for the inside or the outside foreman.

The company houses were built of upright planks, covered where the boards met with two inch battens. The roofs were covered with wooden shingles and the pitch on the back of the roof was so great that the back bedroom was one half as high in the back of the room as in the front of the bedroom. The four rooms were wainscoted to one half of their height. The ceiling of each room was covered with wood instead of plaster. All of the houses were unpainted and in later years took on that weather beaten brown color that characterized all the company houses.

The foreman's home was larger than the other houses and usually contained six or eight rooms. The rooms were larger and the walls were plastered. The foreman's house was usually painted a dark steel color.

The rent of company houses was from two to ten dollars a month and the one renting the home had to be an employe of that company.

After Marya Yank's and O'Boyle's log cabins were constructed the next families to follow were the McGinnis, Barrett, Gerrity, Miles, Coyles, Lawlors, Breslins, Quisicks Sam Dimick and James Walsh.

They were followed by the following families: Ellen Kinney, Sam Broom, John Price, William Toomey, John Kleinginner, David Brown, Robert Hannah, David Leary, Gutlop Gessley, Eli Fry, Mike Kinney, Michael Kelley, James Doyle, John Burke, Bridget McHale, Owen Gallagher, Edward Burke, Luke Timmins, Thomas Brophy, James McHugh, Hughie McGuire, Eisenharts, Morans and Morrisons.

Of these old residents the following still reside in Brownsville: Mrs. Mary Barrett, Mrs. James Walsh and Mrs. Miles (McAndrew). Mrs.

McGinnis is living with her daughter in Philadelphia.

The early residents of Brownsville worked in and around the mines and in the cutting of timber from the vast wilderness of yellow and white pine, hemlock and oak which surrounded their village.

In 1865, they could get their water from springs for drinking and washing purposes in their village, one place in front of the James Walsh home and the other further up the street where the Marowsky property is now located.

In 1870, the villagers banded together and dug a well in front of the present Mrs. James Walsh home. One of the residents, Mr. Dowdy, who lived where Galineys now live, made up a poem commemorating the occasion. The poem was entitled "When Pa'sty Struck The Water." This well was later abandoned, due to impurities getting into the water. The next well was dug on the lot now occupied by Maurice Scanlan's home. This well was used up until the year 1900 when it was filled with rocks and dirt after Sarah Walsh fell in and was rescued alive.

Up until 1875, a stream of water flowed down the side of Locust Mountain and through the upper part of the village, on Coal street. On wash days the village housewives would dam the water in front of their homes and secure water for washing purposes. The water for drinking purposes was carried from a spring on the south side of Locust Mountain Tunnel.

In 1875, due to underground workings, the entire village from borough line to the No. 3 colliery, suddenly sank a few feet, with a resounding crash that was heard and felt by all the residents. This sudden settling of the ground put fear in many of the residents and they moved to other parts to be in

a safe place. Their homes were soon occupied by people who wished to get jobs in the mines.

After the mine settlement, the residents had to secure their entire water supply from a spring, above the old Number 3 water dam.

The engineers and firemen on the Lehigh Valley Railroad engines saved many a weary step by giving to the small boys and girls, water from their locomotive tender.

In the year 1893, the Shenandoah Water and Gas Co. placed a water main in the village and this put to an end the every day question "Have you enough water hauled to last all day?"

The sinking of the ground which cut off part of the water supply has continued to this day. It has destroyed many beautiful homes and is pulling and twisting the houses of the present residents. No compensation is received from the land owners (the Girard Estate) or any other source. The property owners have to pay ground rent in addition to their taxes.

About the year of 1895, there was an aged couple, named Paddy and Kitty Moran, residing in a two room house, which was located about where the Locust Mt. Coal Co. office is at present.

Paddy was employed by the Lehigh Valley Coal Company and his business was chiefly prospecting for coal. He was successful in the accomplishment and on the hills between Packer No. 3 to Bloomsburg one can still find places where Paddy thought he "smelled coal."

Their little house was destroyed by fire, which was started by a spark from a coal train on the Lehigh Valley Railroad. The bucket brigade responded gallantly, but Kitty said, "Let it alone until Paddy comes home."

Brownsville School

When the early residents built

their homes, their next thought was of a school house.

The two room, red painted, school house was erected in 1863. It was constructed of two inch plank and the cracks between the planks were covered with battens. It had large, wood shuttered, windows, shingled roof and was heated with two large coal stoves. The school door faced north and led to a large space around the building which was used as a school playground.

The two school rooms were study and recitation rooms.

The recitation was the smaller and was furnished with rows of benches and a platform, from which the pupils recited their lessons.

As the village did not have any resident eligible to teach, it was necessary to send to Shenandoah and secure as their first teachers, Mr. and Mrs. Hartnett. Later teachers were: Mary Flannery, Sadie Rees, Miss O'Boyle, James Gallagher, Dr. Scanlan, M. M. Burke.

This building was abandoned about the year 1883 because it was not large enough to accommodate the increasing enrollment. The building was then purchased by the boys of Brownsville and elaborately furnished and equipped as social quarters. This building then became a highlight in the social life of the residents of the township and surrounding towns. In its earliest days it boasted of a well equipped library and the finest dance floor on which were held "old time" dances which were a regional attraction. Later in it were held prize fights, cock fights and dog fights.

In the year 1883, a building was built in Upper Brownsville. It was two stories high and had four classrooms. Each class room was furnished with a platform, from which the pupils recited their lessons and upon which the teacher's desk was placed.

This building was torn down in the year 1927 and replaced in the same year by a new, four room, two story, wood structure with all modern conveniences and a seating capacity for 120 pupils. It was opened for school September 7, 1927, and destroyed by fire of an unknown origin on January 6, 1928.

With rare presence of mind a teacher, Miss Helen Malloy, who discovered the fire, notified the principal, Mr. John Burke, and they together got the pupils in line for a regular "fire drill" which is customary a few times a month. The pupils not knowing the building was afire quietly and safely marched to the school yard. Several minutes after the roof of the building crashed down upon the rooms just vacated.

There was no loss of school time, however. Supt. P. F. Dugan, since retired, immediately arranged to have school in the Lower Brownsville and in the Number 2 school, the latter being located one mile west of Brownsville where the teachers and pupils were obliged to attend while the plans were being prepared by D. H. Grootenboer and the new building erected.

The first teachers who were employed in the new building were: John J. Burke, principal, Loretta Devitt, Lillian Garvey and Helen Malloy. At present, it has an enrollment of 107 pupils.

Lower Brownsville School

Up until the year 1912, all school children of Lower Brownsville had to cross the Lehigh Valley Railroad tracks in order to attend Upper Brownsville school.

Although there never was an accident, it became more dangerous every day to go back and forth to school, because of the increase in business and speed of the locomotives.

In 1913, the school directors of West Mahanoy Township had erected a school house in Lower Brownsville to overcome this danger and to relieve the over-crowded condition in the Upper Brownsville school.

The school building has two rooms, grades 1, 2 and 3 in one room and grades 4, 5 and 6 in the other room. It is well ventilated, has plenty of light, its hot water system keeps it comfortably heated.

The first teachers were Joseph Donahue, principal and Miss Margaret Hanley. They were followed by Mary Flannery, Kathleen Kelley, Edward O'Boyle, Helen Kelley, Anna Kane, Mary Scanlan and James McHugh.

Brownsville War Veterans

The war veterans from Brownsville were as follows:

Civil War: James Whalen, Cornelius Flynn, James McHugh.

Spanish-American: Michael Ryan, Patrick Flynn.

World War: Edw. Timmons and Edw. Kane who were killed in action. William Walentis, Anthony Whalen, John McCauley, John Redmond, Edward Hughes, Peter Barrett, Peter Murray, Thomas Conville, John Rowland, Lawrence Whalen, Frank Bogden, Peter Chapasco, John Rowland, John Leary, William Tazeluskey, Max Maliniak, Edward Kane, Peter Barrett, No. 4, Henry Greenwalt, Terrance Conville, John Metkus, Edward Galiney, Patrick Murray, Hugh McGill, James Rowland, Michael Carr, Patrick Haley, Joseph Lasson, Edward Timmons, Daniel Carr, John Conville, Patrick Flynn, Simon Bogden, Felix Tozeloskey, Stanley Martincavage. Patrick Flynn has twenty seven years of service.

PACKER NO. 3

In 1865, Wm. B. Williams leased ground owned by John Fry for the erection of a coal breaker. The

breaker was built of wood secured from the hills and valley near the mine.

It was erected east of the present Weston Coal Co. breaker, and shipped its coal on the Mahanoy Railroad.

This colliery was first known as the Mammoth Colliery, later the Beehive and now as the Packer Colliery No. 3. William Kendrick and company secured the lease from Wm. B. Williams and later it passed into the hands of General H. L. Cake and G. W. Huntzinger.

In 1870, this mine and breaker was leased by the Philadelphia Coal and Iron Co.

In 1874, Asa Packer acquired this colliery so that his railroad would benefit from the transportation of its coal to all parts of our country.

The General Superintendent of the Lehigh Valley Packer No. 3 Colliery, in 1874, was Colonel David Percy Brown.

This mine was consolidated with Packer Collieries No. 2 and 4 in 1902 and the wooden breaker was torn down in 1910.

In 1931, it was electrified throughout and now the coal mined is hauled through a tunnel to the fourth level at Packer No. 4 by means of electric motors.

John Rudd is inside foreman at the present time.

WILLIAM PENN

William Penn, as it is now known, was first settled in the year 1864. It was named by Samuel Griscom, a Quaker, after the founder of the state of Pennsylvania.

In its original state it was a vast wilderness reaching to the outskirts of Shenandoah. After the colliery was opened and the miners began to arrive, it was necessary to build homes to accommodate them. These houses were identical in design and painted red. There was also built

a more massive house with more conveniences for the local superintendent of the coal company. These homes were known as "company houses" and were rented to employes of the William Penn Colliery.

Lower William Penn was built first. At this time there were but two buildings in what is now known as Upper William Penn. One of these was located, on the hill near the school and the other where Thomas Price now resides.

There is an interesting story told about one of the first settlers and his family. It is said that when James Fox arrived with his wife and two children there was no place to take them, except the old log cabin on the hill. After residing here for some time, one morning when Mrs. Fox opened her door, on hearing a noise, she was surprised to find a big brown bear standing there as if he was waiting to be admitted. This was too much for Mrs. Fox and she bundled her babies up, and placed them on a bob-sled and walked to what is now St. Nicholas and took the stage to her mother's home in St. Clair.

The occupation then held by Mr. Fox was that of timber man. It was he that cleared the vast woods for a great distance around the colliery. His son, Thomas, succeeded his father and is still timber man at William Penn Colliery. At the death of James Fox, he was survived by his wife and five children, two of whom are now residing in the upper part of William Penn, Mrs. Ellis Jones, nee Eva Fox and Thomas Fox. During the early period of William Penn, if one should desire to go to Shenandoah, when the only wagon road was under mud and water, he would stand back of where the present store stands and wait for the locomotive to come on its

way to Shenandoah, and the engineer would stop his train and let the people get on.

When the people of Lost Creek No. 2 wished to attend church in William Penn, there was an old path leading from Sneddon's fence, by the site of the old red school house, across the creek, to the lower William Penn row. A log thrown across the stream was the bridge. Single file, lighted by lanterns, the crowd gathering at Leddon's, made the trips to the William Penn Church, as a social occasion that can be looked back upon with great pleasure.

Post Office

The first Post Office in William Penn was located in the colliery office, which is the present site of Martin's home. Then it was in the Company Store, which is now the P. O. S. of A. Hall, owned by George Burner of Mount Carmel. The manager and post master was David Mitchell.

Mr. Reese had it next, at the present site of the Reese home. The first Mrs. Thompson was the next to be appointed, followed by the second Mrs. Thompson, who had the office in her home. Mr. Shearstone is the present postmaster, the location of the Post Office has been moved from the Gletusky's home to Mr. Howard's home.

Wm. Penn Hose Co.

Wm. Penn Hose Company No. 1, was organized Nov. 22, 1907, and the following officers were elected:

Thomas Reese, Pres.; P. H. Devine, Vice-Pres.; James Deane, Secy.; Charles W. Hughes, Treas.

The trustees appointed were: Thomas Sweeney, James McDonough, Thomas Hanlan, Anthony Stemlar, John Tomko, Sr.

The first apparatus was purchased Jan. 7, 1908, consisting of the

following: One Hand Drawn Hose Cart with 300 feet of fire hose; 25 gallon Babcocks, 2 nozzles, 1 "Y" nozzle, and 2 Fire Axes.

The building was dedicated Nov. 23, 1908. The dedication ceremony was given by J. P. Monaghan, Esq., of Shenandoah.

The present fire engine was purchased from the Hahn Company in 1925.

War Veterans

The War Veterans from William Penn were as follows:

Civil War: Joseph Metz, James Fox, Thomas May, Joel Leddon, John Bowman, John Birkleback, Samuel Molton.

Spanish-American War: Henry Fogel, Walter Cooney and Joseph Haggerty.

World War: Joseph Fogel, George McSurdy, Robert Sherman, Charles Lavis, Dewey Jones, Joseph Thompson, Charles Stevenson, Frank Hanley, John Monlish, Thomas Sweeney, Fred Dere, Michael Manko, Ceno Valousky, Edward Baskeyfield, Bart Flannery, Thomas Donlevy, John Walcavage, Fred Monaghan, Joseph Walcavage, Michael Monaghan, Wm. McSurdy, John Malia, Terrance O'Boyle, Wm. Howard, John Rosetto, Wm. Nor-kunsky, Stanley Savakes, Joseph Rada, John Gant, Max Lapack, Walter Koslosky, Frank Subach, John Barrett, Anthony Truck, Edward Galinis, Anthony Pesavage, George Berresford, Joseph Pavelko, John Thompson, Thomas Monaghan, John Malia, Thomas Hutton, Charles Stevenson, Robert Lavenburg.

Of these men who served in the World War, Jos. Fogel was gassed, Fred Dere was wounded and Jos. Thompson was killed in action.

Methodist Church

The first Sunday School was organized by two men, Samuel Griscom and Harry Bechtel, and the first session was held in the little school house on the hill, near the present breaker site. The school, company store and two homes were destroyed by fire in later years.

When the present store was built, Mr. Griscom had the vision of the coming need of a place where the inhabitants could worship, and he had an upper room added to the store building. The Sunday School was transferred to the store and at intervals a traveling preacher would stay over for church services.

Starting as a little Sunday School organized among the employes of the colliery, in 1866, the history of the William Penn Church has been one of steady growth and progress. Harry Bechtel was its first superintendent. Sessions were held each Sunday over the store until the erection of the church in 1880.

In April, 1881, the society of Primitive Methodist made application to the Primitive Methodist Conference for a pastor and the Rev. C. M. Simpson was appointed.

The Primitive Methodist Society being small, a special meeting of the residents was held Dec. 28, 1881, at that time it was decided by a vote of 24 to 7 to organize as a Methodist Episcopal Church. Subsequently an application was made to Presiding Elder Swindells, of the Philadelphia Conference, and on Feb. 15, 1882, the society was organized as the William Penn Methodist Episcopal Church of the North-West District of the Philadelphia Conference, with twelve members in full connection and 14 probationers. On recommendation of the First Quarterly Conference, Rev. Simpson was appointed first

pastor and admitted to the Philadelphia Conference.

The first trustees were: Wm. H. Lewis, Wm. Barrett, Thos. W. Davis, Wm. James, Thos. James, Wm. Draper, E. D. Beddall, Samson Couch and John Price; Recording Steward, John M. Hughes; District Steward, W. H. Lewis; Secretary, Wm. Palmer.

At a meeting held March, 1882, with W. J. Seltzer as chairman, the church property was transferred from the Sunday School to the trustees of the church.

Rev. Simpson served the charge faithfully until March, 1885. Rev. A. M. Vivien then became pastor and remained until 1887. Rev. William Redheffer then took charge and by his earnest pastoral work left the charge in an excellent spiritual condition. Rev. William H. Aspril was appointed to succeed Rev. Redheffer, in 1889, and, after a most successful pastorate of two years, was succeeded by Rev. Ephraim Potts in 1891, who was known as a Spiritual Father to all his people. Rev. John Dyson became pastor in March, 1896, and fulfilled the position most acceptably until 1899, when the Annual Conference appointed Rev. Wm. Steward as pastor. Rev. Steward was a preacher of great ability. Rev. Wm. J. Downing came in April, 1903, and proved himself a worthy and able pastor. During his pastorate general improvements were made and new pews put in at a total cost of \$800. Following Rev. Downing's good work of two years a kind-hearted, conscientious and tireless worker in the person of Rev. Dunkle was sent to William Penn in March, 1905. Besides cancelling debts, making improvements and installing electric lights and a new heater for the Ladies Aid Society,

the congregation enjoyed four years of prosperity and growth. In March, 1909, another very active and eloquent preacher, Rev. Howard R. McDade, took hold in an aggressive manner.

The conference of 1911 appointed Rev. E. B. Sharpless pastor, who was succeeded by the Rev. Jos. M. Pugh, July 15, 1912. Rev. Warren A. Smith came March 18, 1913, and did much to improve the Sunday School Building, Social Hall, Kitchen, renovate the church and grounds.

During the year of 1916 and until 1919 the Rev. Charles F. Salkeld administered to the spiritual needs of the people. Then Rev. Henry Geo. Main was sent to shepherd the flock.

In 1922, the Conference appointed Rev. A. L. Miller, and for ten years he labored faithfully. In 1932, Charles Henry Margerum was appointed and is at present carrying on his work for the spiritual benefits of his flock.

The roll of Sunday School Superintendents is: H. Bechtel; S. E. Griscom, Thos. W. Davis, W. H. Lewis, Rev. W. H. Stewart, John M. Houghes, W. J. Seltzer, Josiah Walker, Charles Burton and Ephraim R. Beddall.

Upper Wm. Penn School

The first school house in Upper William Penn was in the same house now occupied by Charles Lavis and his family. It consisted of one large room in which two teachers taught.

The teachers were Miss Brophy and Miss B. Larkins.

There were no blackboards, all the work being done on the pupils' slates. This was between the years 1886 and 1890.

Some of the pupils attending this school were: Dave Mullard, Wm. Jones, Thos. Fox, Sadie Malloy, Charles May, Esther Malloy, Nellie Malloy, and Jennie Jones.

Some of the later teachers were: Margaret Donlevy, Nellie Malloy, Charlotte Baskeyfield, Ellis Jordan, Winifred McLane, Bess Dean, Anna Manko, John Burke and Winifred Crane.

The school house that was located in Upper William Penn in the year 1912, was somewhat of the old fashioned type. It consisted of three rooms and a small recitation room on the second floor. The lavatories were outside of the building and the building was heated by means of large stoves in each room. Owing to the settling of the earth the building was supported by large pieces of timber.

Thomas Fox and Mr. Coyle along with the other members of the Board of Education obtained permission from the State Superintendent of Education to erect a new building.

In the summer of 1922, the old building was razed and a more modern building was erected. The work was completed about January, 1923. During the time the building was undergoing construction, school was held in a store building which was owned by the Susquehanna Coal Co., and was formerly known as the Company Store. The first four grades were conducted on the first floor of this building while the upper grades were conducted on the second floor.

The present school house is one of the most modern buildings in the state of Pennsylvania. It consists of six large class rooms, each class room having a seating capacity of 40 pupils. The rooms are all well lighted and contain many blackboards and a cloak room.

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There are lavatories on both floors. In the basement is a large room that is equipped with swings, sliding boards, etc., and can be used as a play room by the children.

The building is heated by steam and ventilated by means of a Univent, this is worked by electricity and can supply the rooms with fresh air, without opening the windows.

The present teachers are Miss Elizabeth Sweeney, Principal, Miss Costello, Miss Sabina Monaghan, Miss E. Jones, Miss Helen Malloy and Miss Laura Groody.

Lower Wm. Penn School

The first public school built in Lower William Penn was built near the present location of the school. It was built in the year, 1866, of two inch plank, covered with two inch battens, and painted red.

The first school was ungraded and Messrs. Gallagher and Curran were the first teachers. The first graded school was built in 1881, with Dennis Doyle, Principal. Among the list of teachers who taught in the early days of William Penn are: P. J. Curley, Michael McDonald, Sophie Glover, Mrs. Ellen Clarke O'Boyle, Sallie Palmer, Dr. W. J. Scanlan and Lillian R. Beddall.

Later years up to the present time, the following have served: M. J. Noone, A. D. O'Donnel, M. H. Carey, Henry F. J. Murray, now the present Superintendent of Schools, and John Moyer, who is still on the teaching staff.

Joseph Witcofsky Haggerty rang the bell for the first sessions held in the present school. Among the many who attended the old school and are still living are the Womer, Birklebach, and Haggerty families.

The present teachers are: Josie Griffin, Principal, Lillian Garvey,

Mae Coyle, Mary Carey, Kathryn Feeley, Anna Rusk, Elsie Lebo, Anna Flannery, Daniel Malloy.

Susquehanna Colliery

In 1863, Samuel E. Griscom, who had formerly been connected with the Schuylkill Canal, as Assistant Superintendent, formed a company in partnership with E. and G. Brooks, of Birdsboro, and Sybert McManus and Co., of Reading, for the purpose of mining coal for manufacturing iron in Reading and Birdsboro. The responsibility of selecting a suitable locality devolved upon Mr. Griscom, who secured leases in 1862 upon lands about one mile west of Shenandoah, upon which is William Penn Colliery. This land was originally leased by the above firm from Jacob Hoffman, of Reading.

The land was also claimed by the Girard Estate, who now hold the title. They leased the same ground to Lee, Grant and Patterson.

Both parties started mining by opening drifts above water level and after some litigation the latter firm sold out its interest and leased to Griscom and Company.

In 1865, gangways were opened on the Holmes and Mammoth Veins, houses were built and a saw-mill and Monkey Breaker were put into operation, and for the balance of the year shipped 16 cars a day. Jacob Shelley planned and was Superintendent to construction of the Breaker which was completed in 1866.

This breaker was built on the line of the Phila. and Reading Railroad and was among the largest in the Anthracite Coal Region, and was in use up to the time of the purchase of this colliery by Mr. Stickney and Conygham in 1893, and in that year it shipped 149,779 tons of coal.

In 1893, Mr. Stickney and Conygham built their breaker on the lines of the Pennsylvania Railroad and the old breaker was torn down.

In 1923, this breaker was struck by lightning and burned. The present steel breaker was built in 1923 and 1924. It is electrified and modern in every detail. The coal is brought to breaker from the shaft 950 feet below the surface of the ground. Water is pumped to the surface by two large electric pumps.

The Susquehanna Collieries Co. is the present owners and Mr. Williams is Superintendent and is assisted by Chas. Grumm.

LOST CREEK

Lost Creek is one of the most important villages in West Mahanoy Township. It contains two public schools, a Catholic parochial school, a Convent, one Catholic Church, a Union Chapel, two fire companies, a Post Office, the office of the township superintendent of schools and a fine baseball ground.

The first settler in Lost Creek was Mrs. Cauley who lived in the Brown house at the Reading road. Mrs. Cauley kept boarders who worked on the Phila. and Reading Coal and Iron Co. Railroad which was being built enroute to Shenandoah. The P. & R. C. & I. Railroad came into Lost Creek, north of Quality Hill, then as far as the present church, turned north over a wooden bridge, built across the creek, and went up between the rock banks to join the Lehigh Valley Railroad. From this point both roads used the Lehigh tracks as far as Shenandoah.

Anne Ryan, of Lost Creek, fell from the wooden bridge and was

injured. The remains of the supports of this bridge can be seen near the edge of the creek, opposite the Catholic Parochial school.

In 1874, it had a population of about 220 people. The enlargement of the coal mines, brought many families to this village and in 1900 its population had increased to 1,519. Its population in 1930, was 1500.

Some of the early settlers in Lost Creek were: Joseph Griffin, Patrick Ryan, Michael Brennan and Mr. McLane. The early settlers near the "Spook House" were: Coughlans, who had a child drowned in the well which was 60 feet deep, Gallaghers, Whalens, Thomas Malia, "Old" Patrick Whalen, father of Nicholas Whalen, Michael McGrath (deceased), the well known United Mine Worker Organizer, and Michael Mack.

On McGraw's corner lived the Tolans, Johnsons and Al Lemmick.

On the "High Road" the early settlers were: A. P. McLaughlin, Patrick McIntyre, Michael Bambrick, Michael Brennan, Jas. Gaughan, Luke Hore, Pack Hore, Owen Walsh, "Con" Dennery, Michael Narry, John Burke, Patrick McAndrew, Martin Murray, Jas. Davitt, Bart. Flannery, John McLane, Tony Murphy, Philip Gaughan, Patrick Rowan, Wm. Noon, John Maloney, Michael Carey, John Curley, Thos. ("Strunkey") Noon, Michael Caulfield, Patrick Lally, Jas. Gilroy, Michael Malia, Patrick Garvey, P. T. Dean, John Carey, Jas. McIntyre, Martin Coyle, Frank Carduff, John Walsh, P. O'Donnell, Thos. Luskin, Pat McDonald and Chas. Rielly.

John W. Morgan, wife and family, first moved to Lost Creek from St. Nicholas. The transfer was by box car over the Reading Railroad. Mother and children traveled in the car and remained in the car over night.

At that time the stream, Lost Creek, was well stocked with fish, underbrush grew in luxurious manner, the valley was quiet, and the mines were just opened. The Morgans first lived in a brown, twin house, of the same pattern as the one still standing on the north side of the railroad, near where the old J. C. Bright store stood.

This house was burned down in 1882. At the time, Wm. P. Brown and Mr. A. H. Bromley lived in the house. The fire was caused by a spark from a locomotive on the Lehigh. Captain Hay lived in one side of the other twin house. He and his family, together with his brother Will Hay and family moved to Latrobe, Pa. Captain Hay's daughter, Edith, Mrs. Voshage, resides at DuBoise, Pa.

On Aug. 8, 1880, occurred an accident which shocked the entire community. Martin Dixon and wife, Sarah, Mrs. Dixon, the mother of Martin, and Mrs. Cuff were returning from a Lavelle funeral in Centralia. Their "double rig" was struck by Reading engine No. 1880 and all the occupants were killed. The baby was hurled from the window of the rig by one of the occupants in an effort to save its life but it died of injuries received.

Lost Creek citizens have been active politically since the incorporation of the township. In Aug. 4, 1874, Captain Lamar S. Hay was appointed Republican Standing Committeeman. The delegates to the County Convention (Rep.) in the same year were: Jos. Reese and Wm. E. Hay. The delegates to the Dem. County Convention were, Wm. Ruon and Mr. McLaughlin.

In 1874, the Hon. John W. Morgan of Lost Creek, was the County's representative in the State House of Representatives.

Dr. Brady, the first Physician in Lost Creek, might well be termed the Country doctor. His means of

conveyance was the horse and buggy, well known to his patients. In winter he wended his way by foot or sleigh, sometimes roads being impassable.

Other well known resident physicians were Dr. Gilbert Ferguson, (deceased) born and reared in Lost Creek, son of Patrick Ferguson one of Lost Creek's pioneer residents, Dr. H. Carden and Dr. H. Kilty (both deceased).

St. Mary Magdalen's Church

Lost Creek parish was constructed from parts of Shenandoah and Girardville parishes, for convenience of people residing "down the valley," in 1879.

Prior to this date, the Rev. Martin P. Walsh carried on services in the various school houses. He traveled from place to place with a horse and buggy, in which he carried a small altar.

Father Walsh was a rigid disciplinarian and was frequently busy on pay Saturday nights in rounding up speakeasies, using a whip with telling effects, and breaking them up without much opposition. He administered horsewhipping to several boys of his parish, whom he caught playing baseball one Sunday afternoon, on the level below the church, which after a dry spell of weather, became an ideal ground for playing ball. He was an ardent fisherman and many vacations were spent with the late Doctor J. C. Biddle in this diversion.

The church edifice erected in 1879 was a frame building, 102 feet by 42 feet, in the Gothic style, and was paid for when finished.

The Rev. Martin P. Walsh was the first rector and began his duties with great earnestness and energy, and had the satisfaction to see his church completed and dedicated Christmas, 1879. He had an extensive parish, William Penn to the Hammond Colliery. He was dili-

gent in his duties and in gathering his parishioners and in addition had a fine pastoral residence erected in 1880, which was destroyed by fire in 1908 and has not been rebuilt.

Father Walsh died in May, 1882, to the great sorrow of his parishioners and friends. His funeral was a great demonstration of the esteem in which he was held. He was buried in his home town, Heckscherville.

He was succeeded by the Rev. Hugh J. McManus, who fulfilled his duties until 1892, where at his own request he was transferred to Doylestown. Rev. R. P. Daggert came in 1892 and remained until 1900, when he was transferred to West Grove in exchange with Rev. James Kelly who died in January, 1903, and was succeeded by Rev. John Dooley.

The Rev. Vincent W. Corcoran was appointed in December, 1904, coming here from Branchdale. He left Lost Creek Aug. 3, 1912, to visit Ireland and landed in Ireland on Aug. 14, and returned to Lost Creek Sept. 14, 1912.

The Rev. W. T. Kelly, the present pastor came from Branchdale to Lost Creek, July 10, 1915. He began immediately to prepare plans for the erection of a new church, parochial school, rectory and a convent.

The transfer of the grounds for the new church site was Sept. 11, 1916. The work on the erection of the church was started in March, 1916, and the site was blessed on the last Sunday in May, 1916. The contractors started their work Sept. 11, 1916.

The first Mass was celebrated in the new church on Christmas Day, 1918. The tubular pneumatic pipe organ was erected by M. P. Moeller, of Hagerstown, Md., July 30, 1918. The organ was publicly dedicated with an organ recital by Dr. Robert

Braun of Pottsville. This pipe organ with its separate console has been pronounced by authorities who have heard and tried it, as not having a peer in this section.

The church bell, a tenor, was cast by the McShane Foundry Co. of Baltimore, Md., on Nov. 1920, and is made of the finest India Tin and refined copper. The first set of chimes weighed 2400 pounds and were approved by Father Kelly. The contract price of \$1500 was paid by Edw. J. Kelly and the Rev. Wm. T. Kelly. The bell bears the inscription "In Memory of Joseph Thompson and Anthony Dean who gave their lives for God and their Country."

The ceremony of the first tolling of the bell was held Dec. 18, 1920, at which ceremony John F. McDonald received a cut on the head as a result of standing too close to the bell when it was tolled. The bell was blessed Dec. 19, 1920.

The seating capacity of the church is 700 and the auditorium, which is under the church, is practically the same. There are five altars in the church, one main altar and four chapel altars. The altars, statues and altar railing are steel reinforced with a marble finish.

The Sanctuary is built of hand made tile in colors toning in with interior Travertine decorations. The steps and kneeling rest at the communion rail are Travertine marble from Italy.

Wm. Griffin's child was the first to be baptised in the new church, May 23, 1918.

The work on the Parochial school and Convent was started June 13, 1924, and they were finished in the year 1925. A temporary Parochial school was opened in the basement of the church, in charge of nine sisters of St. Francis.

The new school and academic high school was opened September, 1925.

The estimated value, by the Fire Underwriters Inspection Group, of the four buildings, independent of the heating plants, lighting equipment and furnishings, if constructed in the same manner and using the same quality of material, could not be replaced under \$650,000. Since their estimate was made, improvements to the church alone would add \$22,000 to this sum.

Union Sunday School

The Lost Creek Union Sunday School was organized March 26, 1876, by the Rev. Stephen Tarry of Holmesdale, Pa. The first Sunday School opened with forty members. The first officers were: A. D. Bromley, Superintendent; Mrs. J. W. Bedford, Treasurer, and Emma Miller, Secretary.

An outgrowth of this Sunday School is an incorporation known as the Lost Creek Union Sunday School Association. A Union Sunday School Chapel was erected in Sept. 4, 1876, for the promotion of the Protestant Christian Religion. The first officers were: Captain Lamar S. Hay, Pres.; A. D. Brown, Secy.; J. W. Bedford, Treas.

In 1879, when the Morgan family returned to Lost Creek, they all became actively interested in the Union Sunday School. In 1880, occurred the centennial celebration of the founding of Sunday Schools by Robert Raikes in England.

This occasion was celebrated in splendid manner by the Sunday School under A. H. Bromley, Superintendent, and F. G. Clemens, assistant Superintendent. Each class chose a symbol of Biblical significance and presented it, with appropriate quotation from the Bible.

Mrs. Morgan's class had a flock of lambs in a field. Colonel David Percy Brown's sword was used by one class for its token. At one time the attendance was so great that the matter of more room became a problem. It was seriously considered to enlarge the building by erecting an addition to the north side, as an ell. This would have encroached on the residence then occupied by William Brown, and now owned by the Cox estate.

Lost Creek Band Of Hope No. 1

Lost Creek Band of Hope No. 1 was organized June 12, 1880, with thirty six members. The first president was Mary Markle and J. Alonzo Metz was Vice President.

Sons Of Temperance

Lost Creek Division No. 9, Sons of Temperance was organized July 22, 1878, with thirty six charter members. The first officers were: D. P. Brown, J. W. Taylor, S. H. Brady, J. D. Leddon, William Owens, Robert Peel, I. W. Moister, A. H. Bromley, B. R. Severn, Fred Hopkins, W. H. Kaercher, John Hallinan.

Cadets No. 18

Lost Creek Section No. 18. Cadets was organized April 26, 1879. There were twenty three charter members. The first officers were: D. P. Brown, Ida Porter, A. H. Bromley, J. C. Brown, I. W. Moister, Donald Ogden, Mrs. S. H. Brady.

A. O. H. Division 15

Division 15 of the A. O. H. was organized in May 11, 1888 at Lost Creek. The first officers of the organization were;

Patrick E. Dean, Pres.; John J. Flannery, Vice Pres.; Michael H. Carey, Recording Secy.; John J. Curley, Financial Secy.; Joseph P. Griffin, Treas.

Some of the charter members were; A. F. Dean, M. H. Carey, Michael McDonald, Mart. J. McDonald, M. F. McLane, Thos. Dixon, Michael Brennan, now living in Pottsville; Jas. Gallagher, John F. McDonald, Jas. Groody, Thos. Malia, Fred McLaughlin, Thos. Flannery, Anthony J. Dean, Dennis McCormick and John J. McGrath.

Lost Creek Cadets

The Lost Creek Cadets were drilled by Thomas McGuire and Hugh Kelley. They had a Fife and Drum Corps, which was the pride of the community and with which they won many prizes throughout the county. Some of the early members of the Cadets were; Thos. Whalen, Jas. Flannery, Michael Brennan, Thos. Coyle, Anthony McLane, Nicholas Whalen, Wm. Dougherty, John Dean, Thos. Malia, Peter O'Donnell, Thos. Moran, Edw. Griffin, Hugh Kelley, Anthony Kelley, Anthony Monaghan, Hugh Rowan, Thos. Bradshaw, Jos. Kelly, Thos. Brennan, Daniel Sweeney, Wm. Renolds, Harry McKerwin, Stephen Carrol, Wm. McGuire, Patrick McGrath, Jas. Renolds, Geo. Gaffney, Jas. Mack, Henry Murray, and Owen Gallagher.

Local Union 1516

Local Union No. 1516 United Mine Workers of America was organized at Lost Creek, Oct. 2, 1900. Hugh Sweeney was the first President and Hugh O'Donnell was its first Secretary. The charter of this organization can be seen in the Lost Creek High School and bears the signature of John J. Mitchell.

Lost Creek School

An old brown colored building was the first school in Lost Creek. It stood where the present Lost Creek Public High School is now located. The first principal was M. J. Gallagher, and some of the early

teachers were: M. M. Burke, Nellie Coakley and Ida Porter.

The summer session was usually "pay school" conducted by teachers of that section. Dr. Arthur Morgan, of Phila., can recall Mary Noon, M. M. Burke, and others, as being in attendance with him during one session.

During the year 1879 the members of the school board, Frank Dougherty, Peter Kerns, Thos. Taylor, Wm. Brown and Mr. Stein, of Raven Run planned to erect a new school on the site of the old building. The building was finished in the year 1880, and has been in use ever since. This building houses the office of the Superintendent of Schools, for West Mahanoy Township.

In the early days of this school, spelling bees were common on Friday afternoons. Declamations were occasionally presented; debates never.

The lunch hour at the High School was a great social occasion. Mr. Gallagher boarded a little distance from the school; the children from William Penn and No. 2 carried their lunches and visited with the children from the "Rapp." and Colorado.

The present teachers are A. D. O'Donnell, Principal; Mae Kilker, Anna Murphy, Helen McAndrew.

The educational interests of West Mahanoy Township are represented by twelve buildings, under the supervision of 59 teachers who are teaching 1,598 pupils.

Upon the completion of their studies in the eighth grade, the education of the pupils is continued by the school district in the high schools at Shenandoah, Frackville and Girardville.

Lost Creek War Vetreans

The war veterans from Lost Creek are as follows. The Civil War: Jas. Sweeney, John K. Burke, Wm. Timmons, Patrick Whalen and Michael Mack, Sr.

Spanish American War: Nicholas Whalen, Terrance O'Boyle, Alexander Foley, Michael Murphy, David Cray, Anthony Dean, Jas. Dean, Anthony Munley, Edw. Ryan, Jas. Sweeney.

World War Veterans: Anthony Solakis, John Neary, John Gaughan, Patrick Kelley, Patrick Maloney, Andrew Malia, Francis Bradshaw, Martin Dean, James Maloney, John Maloney, Gene Walsh, Michael Neary, Edward Gaughan, Daniel McCormick, Anthony Dean, John Malia, John Lally, Anthony Dean, Frank Curduff, Patrick Maloney, Patrick Neary, Patrick Reilly, Jas. Gaughan, Eugene McDonald, Anthony Malia, Michael Dean, Michael Garvey, Michael Maloney, Patrick Dennery and Edward Maloney.

Lost Creek Drug Store

Wm. Wilcox opened the Lost Creek Drug Store in 1883 and operated it until 1885. He sold it to E. E. Johnson in June, 1885, who ran it until 1916. This was the only drug store in West Mahanoy Township during the years 1883 to 1916. It was located in the home now owned by Lawrence B. Murphy, the present tax collector of West Mahanoy Township. In 1926, Pierce Tomlin, of Shenandoah, opened one in Shenandoah Heights.

Girard Hosiery Mill

The Girard Hosiery Mill, owned by E. E. Johnson, was erected and operated in the year 1902. It was a large two story building and the machines which did the knitting were driven by steam which was generated on the premises.

The site of this building was located, south of the Lehigh Valley

Railroad and east of the State Highway in Lost Creek.

It employed twenty four people and manufactured hosiery. The output was 200 dozen pairs a day. Egyptian yarn was used by the manufacturer and the machines were made to use this type of yarn.

When the World War broke out in 1914, the manufacturer was unable to secure this type of yarn and was forced to shut down.

In 1916, the building was changed into a dwelling and at present is owned and occupied by former Superintendent of Schools P. F. Dugan.

Post Office

In 1871, George Miller was appointed first postmaster in Lost Creek. He later was postmaster in Raven Run. After George Miller, in Lost Creek, was Captain Porter, who was succeeded by Dan Tolan. During Cleveland's administration, Tolan was succeeded by Geo. W. Johnson. He was followed by Michael Gallagher, E. E. Johnson, who held it for 17½ years, and Mrs. Mary Costello. She upon resignation was succeeded by Mrs. Kate Monaghan who has the post office in her home at the present time.

Company Store

The first company store was located where the Regan and Klitch families now live. It was first managed by Mr. Reyfsnyder and later by Mr. Miller. The store was abandoned when J. C. Bright built his store. The building was then converted into a boarding house and is now owned by Frank Reagan.

J. C. Bright built his store north of the Lehigh Valley Railroad crossing and east of the Kutchinsky gasoline station. This store was owned by J. C. Bright but was called a "company" store because the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. had a

"check off" for its employees who were customers of J. C. Bright. Wm. Howard was the manager at the new store. The second manager was Al. Clint who was killed by a team of horses at the corner of the store. The team of horses ran away and was captured at the Lost Creek No. 2 crossing. Wm. Dooley became manager at the death of Al Clint. Fred McLaughlin, a teamster at the company store, bears a scar to this day as the result of being kicked by a horse while backing his team near the platform of the store.

The clerks at the new store were Annie Jefferies, Annie Saegers, Sadie Sobieaa, dry goods clerks; Isaac Goodman, a shoe clerk, and Joseph Griffin was the warehouse man. The grocery clerks were Chas. Post, John Kincade, Manny Kulp and Will Goodman. The office clerks were: Wm. Mainwaring and Clara Metcalf.

After Bedford's death, a son of J. C. Bright managed the store and he was followed by "Sailor" Longdorf.

One Sunday night the store was robbed by at least four men. "Old Man" Jones was the night watchman and was bound and gagged by the robbers. "Old Man" Ben Jones was placed in the shoe department and Thos. Whalen and Michael Carr, who were standing on the platform, were taken inside and chloroformed. Thos. Whalen and Mr. M. Carr were then wrapped in blankets and placed on the dry goods side. The robbers took a sledge hammer from the hardware department and put a new handle in it. After doing this they hammered a hole in the safe and blew it open. They secured \$125 in cash, railroad tickets and destroyed books. They were never caught.

Freight And Passenger Station

The Lost Creek freight and passenger station was opened by the

Lehigh Valley Railroad. The original station was destroyed by fire one morning at two o'clock, the fire being caused by spontaneous combustion in the hay stored in the freight station. As early as 1874 it had a telegraph office of the Philadelphia, Reading & Pottsville Telegraph Co. with connecting lines to the Pacific & Atlantic and other telegraph companies. Michael O'Brien was the station agent when it was destroyed by fire. The next day the Lehigh Valley Railroad sent a passenger car to be used as a passenger station and an old freight car to be used while the new station was being built.

The first station agent of the new station was Cal. Steigerwalt and he was followed by John McDonald, Anthony I. McLane, and his brother Martin McLane, Daniel McCormick was the last station agent. Michael Carey and Owen McDonald were crossing men.

Citizens Fire Co. Lost Creek

The Citizens Fire Co. was organized in 1922. The first officers were: Patrick Feeley, Pres.; John Dixon, Vice Pres.; John McDonald, Treas.; Joseph Dugan and Christ Cox, Trustees. This fire company has one Hahn chemical truck.

West End Fire Co.

The West End Fire Co. received the old school building from the West Mahanoy Township School Board and converted it into a fire house at the cost of about \$3,600.

They purchased a chemical hand truck and later turned it in to the Buffalo Company and purchased a Reo Combination Truck for \$3,400.

The company was organized April 14, 1919. The first officers were: Henry Carey, Pres.; John McAndrew, Secy.; Thos. Langdon, Treas.; Thos. Langdon, Bart Devitt and Thos. Cafferty, Trustees.

The present officers are: A. D. O'Donnell, Pres.; Pat. McAndrew, Vice Pres.; John Boyle, Recording Secy.; John D. Carey, Financial Secy.; John Whalen, Treas.; Terrence Carey, Foreman; Jos. Barrett, Fire Chief; Thomas Cafferty, Dominick McAndrew, Anthony Monaghan and Wm. Rielly, Trustees.

Lost Creek Athletic Asso.

The Lost Creek A. A. was organized in 1927, the first officers were: Thos. Gallagher, president; A. D. O'Donnell, secretary-treasurer.

Connors School

The Connors school was built during the year 1880, Miss Mary Noon was the first teacher. The present building was built in the year 1913. The old school building was purchased by the West End Fire Co. and remodeled. The first teachers in the new building were Michael Dean and Vera Carey. It is a one story, two room, frame building.

LOST CREEK NO. 2

The original village of Lost Creek is now called Lost Creek No. 2.

Lost Creek—how it received its name we leave to the reader after we present two stories.

One story is that a stream of water flowing along the top of Locust Mountain, sank into holes in the ground where the Raven Run water dams are now located and then, flowing under the ground, it emerged in the Lost Creek No. 2 ravine.

The other story is taken from the Miners Journal of March 31, 1874, thirteen years after the founding of Los' Creek.

"It may not be uninteresting to learn something about Lost Creek, which, by the way is rather an isolated place but nevertheless possessing many interesting features. Tradition has it that many years ago a party of hunters lost them-

selves in the dense forest of stately pines and hemlock, and coming upon the creek they refreshed themselves and henceforth named it Lost Creek. The land was formerly owned by Stephen Girard, but after his death became the property of the city of Philadelphia. His colliery at this place was first opened by our esteemed townsmen, Colonel F. B. Kaercher. It subsequently became the property of the Philadelphia Coal Co., who have worked it ever since. In connection with their other two collieries (No. 1 & 2) better known as Colorado and Lehigh. It may not be out of place to say that this company has one of, if not the very best, coal leases in the Anthracite Coal fields of Pennsylvania. The coal veins are very large, regular and easily worked, while the coal is of a very superior quality. Lost Creek Colliery, known as "Shenandoah No. 2," has made the heaviest shipment of coal in the year 1873, of any colliery in the county, having shipped 149,779 tons. Much of the prosperity of the colliery is due to the General Superintendent, Colonel D. P. Brown, assisted by Captain L. S. Hay. The Philadelphia Coal Co. has been fortunate and can feel proud in having secured the service of the two gentlemen named; unlike most superintendents you will find Col. Brown at his post of duty early and late. The Lost Creek Store Co. have opened a large and well stocked store, which under the courteous and able management of Mr. Williams will do a large and remunerative business, and will be a great convenience to this locality. Hon. John W. Morgan, the true representative of the working man from this county in the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania has been a resident of this place for many years, and up to the time of his departure for Harrisburg worked in these mines, and even now has a man employed to draw out the coal he mined. This colliery can therefore justly and proudly lay claim to the honor of having furnished the first working man's representative from this county in the legislative halls of this state."

The first houses in Lost Creek No. 2 were built of logs secured in the forest which stood close at hand. There was a three family log house south of the "Bull Yard" and occupied by the Lockwood, Dixon and

Kilker families. The house owned by Mrs. Jane Peel is one of the original log houses. It has rooms added to it, weatherboarded, painted and an outside chimney until today it cannot be recognized as one of the original log houses.

The Morgan family moved to Shenandoah in 1871, returning to Lost Creek No. 2 April 6, 1871, living there exactly six years, again returning to Shenandoah on April 6, 1885. They occupied the half of the twin house east of the old breaker. The other side was occupied by John Parrot, outside foreman, who had moved there from Thomaston.

There was a good growth of timber on the north side of the mountain, above the Lehigh Valley Station in the Lower Patch. This was cut down, "snaked" to the slope at No. 2, and used inside. Later teams with logs from the Ringtown Valley brought timber to No. 2 and No. 4 and after that was gone, the supply came from the mid-state locations, centering in and around Lycoming and Clinton Counties.

David Thompson was one of the first to put the square timbers in No. 2 slope.

There was a saw mill located in the village which cut all the material used in building the company houses and there was a brick yard adjoining the site of Mr. Smith's home.

The first settlers of Lost Creek No. 2 were: Mrs. Patrick Joyce, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Koch, Mr. and Mrs. Donahue, Mr. and Mrs. Sands, Mr. and Mrs. Sheridan, Mr. and Mrs. Reese, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Meeney, Mr. and Mrs. Dixon, Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Lockwood, Mr. and Mrs. Rick. The four families residing in the two log cabins which were across from Reese's present home are, John Koch and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Sheridan, Mr. and Mrs. Sands,

Mr. Charles and Mrs. Tillie Koch. Some of the early residents of the "Smoky Hollow" section were: Patrick O'Boyle, John Donlevy, Owen Rielly, Murphy Family, Mr. and Mrs. Rowland, Thos. Jordan, John "Blackjack" Williams, Rodger Dixon, Mr. and Mrs. Kilker, Mr. and Mrs. Monaghan, Patrick Crane, Wm. Moyer, Chas. Parfitt, Richard Gerrity. The early residents of the "Culvert" section were, "Billy" Wilds, "Old Man" Nicholas, Mr. and Mrs. F. Frie, Mr. Possessky, "Old Bobbie" Peel, Mike and Pete Larkins and "Tim" Larkins, who was a great dancer and singer, and traveled with "Joint" O'Neil.

"Smoky Hollow" received its name because the early settlers had a custom of starting a new wood fire each morning and the residents of the upper section could see smoke issue from every chimney.

The "Culvert" section of the village receives its name from the Lehigh Valley Railroad Culvert, which was built in 1871 and rebuilt in 1918.

Former residents of Lost Creek No. 2, who have attained professional prominence are Dr. A. J. Morgan of Phila., Dr. Taggart, of Phila., and the Hayes Brothers, of DuBois, Penna.

In the early days Chestnut coal cost \$1.25; Stove coal, \$1.50; Pea coal, \$.80 a ton; and it cost \$.25 a ton to haul it.

War Veterans of Lost Creek No. 2

The War Veterans of Lost Creek No. 2 were as follows: Civil War, John W. Moyer, Rufus Lockwood, Thos. G. Taylor and Lieut. Isaac Dunston.

Spanish American War: John Donahue, Simon Drogalis, Simon Galinis, John Hartzell, Jos. Barusky, John Boyce, Clarence Richardson,

Patrick Coyle, John Colihan and Fred Castle.

World War: Chas. Williams, Alex McDonald, Wm. Gerrity, Francis McClafferty, Jas. Rowland, Frank Possessky, Peter Galinis, Alex Dombroskie, Ike Heffner, Michael Tres-hock and Michael Rowland.

Lost Creek No. 2 Schools

The first "Little Red School" in Lost Creek No. 2, was built about 100 feet east of Ellis Jordan's Pool Room, and directly in front of the Donahue property, south of the township road. It was a one room school, painted red, and the first teacher was Daniel Hartnett. This school was purchased by James Meeney and moved to the north side of the road. Mr. Meeney turned it into a dwelling. Later, it was purchased by Mr. Donahue who improved it and added two more rooms. "Bud" Donahue is the present owner of the building.

The second school to be built in Lost Creek No. 2, was located south of the Lehigh Valley Railroad and east of the highway leading to William Penn. It was above and east of where Murphy's house was located. It, like the first school, was painted red, had one room, heated by a round coal stove, the school door facing north.

Some of the early teachers in this school were: Patrick Crane, Mr. and Mrs. Hartnett, Dr. Birmingham, in 1890, Jacob Nolan, of Rappahannock, Miss Dormer, Miss Williams and Valeria McGinniss.

Jacob Nolan, of Rappahannock, was a teacher in the red school house for several terms. He had a son Jacob, who came with him as a pupil. It was common to hear the father say, "Jacob Nolan, if you don't study your lesson, I'll cut

ye into inches." (This threat was never fulfilled.) Nolan was stern and fierce. He had whiskers, heavy eyebrows, and struck terror into the hearts of the little ones. Dr. Morgan does not recall that his administration of corporal punishment was unduly severe. He has no personal recollection of having received any at his "hands," although, he said, he surely must have merited it at times.

John and Arthur Howell and Edith Morgan attended this school. Later, they were promoted to the High School in the Store Patch, which was under the supervision of Michael Gallagher, of Mahanoy Plane. Michael Gallagher married Valeria McGinniss, daughter of Mrs. Daniel Ogden. Valeria McGinniss taught in the red school house for several terms. She was accustomed to come to the Morgan home for lunch, carrying her food in a basket and warming tea, coffee or milk on the stove.

Sally Kane (Mrs. Wood of Girardville) also taught in this school.

The fan that furnished air to the Holmes Vein at No. 2 colliery encroached on the school grounds. The school was abandoned in 1886, and purchased by "Bobbie" Peel, who tore it down and with the lumber he obtained built a home near No. 2 culvert.

The third school house constructed in the village was located above the "Lokey" Road. It was built during the year 1886, a two story, four room building. It was burned down in the year 1908. The teachers, Miss Donlevy, Miss Reddy, Miss Cary Wilds and Mr. McLane went with their pupils to Brownsville and Lost Creek for three years while a new building was being provided.

The present school was finished in the year 1911. It is a two story, four room building located near the culvert under the Lehigh Valley R. R. and on the road leading to Raven Run. The present teachers are: John Moyer, Principal; Mary Sweeney, Bella Hopkins and Mayme Ryan.

PACKER NO. 2

Packer No. 2 Colliery was first opened in 1863 by G. W. Huntzinger and Col. F. B. Kaercher. In 1866, Mr. Kaercher sold his interest to Col. H. L. Cake.

The breaker was built entirely of wood secured in the nearby forest. It was erected near the location of the old boiler house and south of the present slope. Col. H. L. Cake operated this mine under the name of the Girard Coal Co.

In 1868, this colliery passed into the hands of the Philadelphia Coal Co. who operated it under the name of the Shenandoah or "Lost" Creek No. 2 colliery.

In 1874, the Lehigh Valley Coal Co., through the efforts of Asa Packer, purchased the controlling rights and continued mining under the name of the Philadelphia Coal Co.

In 1883, the breaker burned to the ground and work on the construction of another breaker was started immediately. The second breaker was finished in the year 1884.

In 1902, this colliery consolidated with Packers Nos. 3 and 4 and they have been operated ever since by the Lehigh Valley Coal Co.

In 1903, the breaker, being of no further use, was torn down.

Mr. Hays, of Lost Creek, was the first inside foreman and Col. D. P. Brown was general superintendent in 1874.

Charles Koch of Lost Creek No. 2, was the first man to run a steam

locomotive in and around the breaker. Frank Frie was the first blacksmith at this operation.

Packer No. 2 mine coal is taken to Packer No. 4 mines by means of an electric mine locomotive and mine cars. It is taken through a mine tunnel on the second level in Packer No. 2 to the fourth level in Packer No. 4 mines.

There are seven electrical, centrifugal, automatically operated mine pumps in Packer No. 2 mines. Three pumps on the second level; two Pennsylvania pumps, each pump being rated at 750 gallons per minute, and one Barrett Hentjens pump with a capacity of 1,600 gallons a minute.

There are two Barrett and Hentjen pumps located on the fourth level each with a capacity of 1,400 gallons a minute.

On the fifth level there is one Barrett and Hentjen's pump with a capacity of 1,000 gallons a minute, and one Goyne pump with a capacity of 1,600 gallons a minute.

Each pump is driven by a 500 horsepower motor and the pumps are arranged on a relay system. A total capacity of 3,100 gallons of sulphur water is pumped to the surface of the ground each minute.

Mr. Chapman, of Centralia, is the present inside foreman.

PACKER NO. 4

This colliery was opened by the Philadelphia Coal Co. in 1875. The Philadelphia Coal Co. later traded under the name of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. This company consolidated the workings of Packer Nos. 2, 3 and 4 in the year 1902.

The original breaker was torn down in 1899, and a modern breaker erected in its place. It was started in the year, 1901.

The coal is hauled underground from Nos. 2 and 3 and dumped in a "gunboat" where it is hauled to

the surface and then by means of a huge scraper line it is taken to the top of the breaker.

During the years 1930 to 1933 many electrical improvements had been made and this colliery bids fair to be one of the foremost in the region.

Dr. A. C. Morgan, of 1930 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, as a boy of 15 years, worked at Packer No. 4 on the "First Aid." He had charge of the stretcher, an ordinary canvas on poles. This was kept in the oil supply house. No bandages were kept. A supply of carron oil—linseed oil and lime water—was later added. Injured men were loaded into the ordinary wagon with iron rimmed wheels, and transferred to their homes. Later on, when the hospital at Ft. Springs was opened, permission was granted to stop the passenger trains to load the poor sufferers in the baggage car for the journey that, all too often, proved to be their last. On the other hand, the reputation of Dr. J. C. Biddle, first surgeon at the hospital, the first of its kind, soon became established and justly increased as the years rolled by. Dr. Morgan knows of some wonderful results accomplished by this genial, skillful member of the medical profession.

COLORADO

In 1863, the building of the colliery and later the homes to accommodate the workingmen and their families was the founding of "Seitzingers" which is now known as Colorado.

Colorado was first settled, principally, by Irish families. Opposite the company stable lived "Chicken" Kerns, Denny Brennan and Dan. Miller. Above the "Parich" grounds lived Friels and Mary Horn.

Opposite No. 1 breaker was a double house, in one side lived James "Peg Leg" Hoban. The day

Mr. Hoban was being buried, a steer broke loose in Girardville and came up the Lokey Track which was being built to No. 5. The steer was heading toward the crowd of people, who were gathering to attend Mr. Hoban's funeral, but changed its mind and went up the incline and to the tip of the breaker. Frank Scanlan went to the colliery office and secured a rifle and shot the steer while it was on the tip of the breaker.

The section, above the breaker, consisted of a few houses. This section was known as "Molasses Hill" and the following families lived there, Warfields, Harris and Britts.

West of the breaker and down on the team road was the "Bowery" a licensed saloon. At this saloon and in the surroundings occurred a fight every day, several on Saturday and any number on Sunday.

On the top of the hill lived Caulfields, Richardson, the inside foreman; Coakleys, Kelly, Hurley, Coakley, Costello, Ed Platte, Frank Scanlan, Burns, Macks, "Spur" Brennan, Dougherty, Schultz, Geo. Gilbert, Terry O'Brien, Jos. Griffin, James Hoban, "Mick" Kelly and Walshs, who later moved to Lost Creek, McNulty, Thompson, Tierney; two English families, the Wilkensons and the Donlonsons, and a Welsh family named Walker.

In the early days a powwower was in great demand. His greatest attempted feat was powwowing the Colorado Dirt Bank fire. Col. Brown Supt. of the L. V. Coal Mines, whether to humor him or with some little belief in his cult, allowed his trial at the fire. The "Patch" boys, non-believers, gathered around and were highly amused at the procedure. The fire unabating caused the powwower to give up with the statement that too many devils were nearby.

The first roads were broken down by logs being hauled for timber, for the mines. The trees were cut down and trimmed, then hauled, by being pulled by mules to the top of the slope. The road from "Seitzingers" to Girardville was known as the "log team road." The trees and bushes were so dense on both sides of the road that the sun could not shine on one while walking between the places mentioned.

The roads were poorly constructed and in dry weather were dusty and in wet weather they were muddy. For this reason the people of the village had to walk on the railroad to get to Shenandoah or Girardville.

Colorado School

The first school was built south of the township line, and in that section of Colorado known as the "Bowery." The teachers in this building were John Lovett and Miss Cambell. Some of the other teachers were Dennis Doyle, Michael Witaker and Mary A. Dormer. The Pinchot family occupy it now as a residence.

The first teacher in the school was Kate Thompson.

The present school is situated in the heart of the village.

Its present enrollment of 50 pupils is under the charge of Edward O'Boyle, principal, who has charge of Grades 5, 6, 7, and 8. Miss Margaret Conry has charge of Grades 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Colorado Colliery No. 1

Colorado colliery No. 1 was opened in 1863 by Geo. W. Huntzinger and Jeremiah Seitzinger.

The first Foreman at this Colliery was Mr. Hughes of Tamaqua, followed by Mr. Oliver and in later years by Mr. Barnhart. The first chief clerk was Mr. Bosbyshell,

and later followed by Mr. Hoffman.

James Ryan was the first locomotive engineer and was taught by Mr. McDonough of the Baldwin Locomotive Works. Joseph Richards was inside foreman.

In 1865, it was leased to the Phila. and Reading Coal and Iron Co., and continued operation under the name of the Phila. Coal Co. In 1873, it shipped 88,295 tons of coal to market.

In 1874 the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. purchased a controlling interest in the lease and operated it under the name of the Phila. Coal Co.

This mines is now operated in conjunction with the Packer No. 5 colliery of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co.

RAVEN RUN

The first authentic account of Raven Run is in 1863, when we find two new breakers going up on the land owned by the estate of Stephen Girard.

The two original breakers were built entirely of wood cut and sawed on the property. The Heaton's built two houses situated near the west end of the present steel breaker. These homes were considered very luxurious in these days.

In 1930, two of the original log cabins were torn down as the occupants were ordered to vacate, the company having decided to take the coal from under the buildings. These cabins were built of wood sawed on the property. During the same year, the remaining inhabitants on the east side were ordered to vacate. Several of the families moved to nearby towns while others bought ground and built new homes on a tract of land on the eastern end of the village.

In 1917, when our country entered the World War, eighteen young men answered their country's call. Many of them saw service in the trenches. Two of these, Leslie Johnson and Felix Clive, were struck with influenza while in a southern training camp, and died.

The village has a park, a Sunday School, a Chapel, a breaker and, in the year 1894, had a Philadelphia Reading & Pottsville Telegraph Co. with connecting lines to the Pacific & Atlantic and other telegraph companies in the United States.

Raven Run Schools

In 1870, there were two one room schools in operation, one at the west end of the village and the other at the east end. In 1883, the school district decided to build a new school. Two lots were secured at the eastern end of the village and a modern two story building was erected. This building was remodeled in 1931 and a fire escape erected. The teachers are Miss Anna Byrne, principal, Miss Susan Bonner, Miss Bridget Kelly and Miss Mary Joyce.

Union Chapel, Raven Run

Before the Union Chapel was erected in Raven Run the members of the Protestant faith gathered in the school house to receive religious instruction.

When they decided to build, the members of the congregation carried the stone from the mountain and this was used in making the foundation. A building committee was appointed to look after the work and was composed of the following members: Wm. Moyer, Robert Johnson, Philip Wagner, James Harlor, Richard Edwards, Mr. Hazel and Jabez Newton.

The cornerstone was laid in 1888, and the first officers were: James Davis, Superintendent; Robert Johnson, secretary; W. K. Moyer,

treasurer; Wm. Newton, librarian.

In 1932, it was moved to a lot in the new section of the village.

St. Helen's Chapel, Raven Run

During the years 1863 to 1915, the Catholic residents of Raven Run had to walk or ride to Ashland and later to Girardville and Lost Creek to attend religious services.

In the year 1915, the cornerstone of St. Helen's Chapel was laid. In it one mass is held each Sunday and on Holy Days with the cooperation of a priest from the Girardville parish. The first mass was celebrated in this chapel by the Rev. John P. Mealey.

William's Park, Raven Run

In the new section of Raven Run is a piece of ground known as William's Park.

Through the efforts of Mine Superintendent Walter Williams contributions were received from the employees for the erection of a swimming pool and the furnishing of a playground for the employees and their families.

This is one of the most delightful spots in the village.

Raven Run War Veterans

The World War veterans from Raven Run were as follows: John Detz, John Coiante, Ralph Ebener, Wm. Byrne, Nick Santucci, Stiney Glowacki, Felix Clive, Leslie Johnson, James V. Rauco, John Dugan, Jas. Wood, Jas. Rauco, Michael Dugan, Louis D'Isabella, Leo Chiaretti, Joseph Dugan, Ciccioni Alberico and Bruce Davenport. Of these, Felix Clive and Leslie Johnson died at camp.

Raven Run Colliery

In 1863, two new breakers were erected upon the land owned by the Girard heirs.

One breaker was situated on the east side of Raven Run and owned by the Girard Mammoth Coal Co., which leased the portion mostly to

the north and east of Raven Run gulch, and the other breaker situated on the west side and owned by Cuyler Co., which leased the portion west of the gulch. The former was owned by Johnson, Donaldson and Ormrod, the latter was owned by the Heaton Brothers.

The Girard heirs must not be confused with the Girard Estate, as Raven Run was a piece of land among four or five others which Stephen Girard acquired after the date of his will and according to the law at that time, could not be included in his estate, consequently, those heirs had title to the land and leased it, appointing the Sheafers and later the Sheaffer Estate as their agents.

The Heaton Brothers had been operating on what is known as "Wildcat" about a half mile from Raven Run and the Reading Railroad had been built to that point for them. Upon their coming to Raven Run, the Reading Co. extended a backswitch from Wildcat up the Raven Run gulch in the position it now occupies.

The Lehigh Valley Railroad built through the property in 1863, but it was too high above the breaker to make it possible to ship over at that time.

There was quite a race between the two companies to see who would be the first to ship coal.

The Girard Mammoth drove a rock tunnel almost due north from where the present office stands and cut the Skidmore and Buck Mountain veins in the south dip.

The Heaton's went in on the present Heaton's Drift, Buck Mountain vein, north dip, reaching coal much quicker than the Girard Mammoth and winning the race for the first shipment.

From records kept we find that the Girard Mammoth operated from

this time until 1880, but were never very heavy shippers, their yearly tonnage being about 40,000 tons, the majority of which came from the south dip of the Buck Mountain vein, where they had sunk an inside gunboat slope which dumped on the Buck Mountain gangway and was hauled by water level to the breaker. The Johnson operation, as it was called, came to grief in 1880, with the continuation of this north tunnel which did not cut any coal, the north basin having spooned out east of this tunnel.

The Heaton's mined their coal from the north dip of the Buck Mountain vein above the water level to 1875, in which year they started to sink an inside slope. They operated until 1885, shipping an average yearly tonnage of 120,000 tons.

In 1880, the Phila. Coal and Iron Co. bought out the Girard Mammoth Coal Co. and in 1885 was able to consolidate the two properties, as the Heaton's abandoned their operation after a bad mine accident which killed ten men. This accident was on the third and fourth levels, due evidently to the small pillars and a consequent squeeze.

The Reading Co. used the Girard Mammoth breaker, enlarging it and installing jigs. They operated until 1904 when the property was abandoned as it was worked out. The Reading took coal from the same workings as the two companies and in addition drove the present No. 1 slope in 1882, giving a closer outlet for the coal from the south dip workings to the breaker.

The east side of the property was developed by the Reading and they uncovered the Buck Mountain vein by strippings. This stripping was started by handwork, but one of the first team shovels, at least in the Schuylkill District, was used by the contractors Benjamin and Butler.

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In 1905, a new Girard Mammoth Coal Co. was started by the James Bros. of Shenandoah. They operated the same strippings as the Reading and the same breaker in 1908, when they built a new breaker on the site of the old Cuyler one on the west side of the gulch. In 1912, this new breaker was burned down. The breaker was rebuilt and included two new owners, namely Timothy Cockill and Harry Christ.

In 1919, with a year still to go on the James lease, the Wentz Corp. bought the Raven Run tract from the Girard heirs. Due to mining coal endangering the recovery of other coal beds, the James Brothers were ousted before the lease expired and the Wentz Co. started operating under the name of the Raven Run Coal Co. which later, in 1923, was consolidated with other Wentz operations into what is now known as the Hazle Brook Coal Co.

In 1923, the present steel breaker was erected, at a cost of a million and a half dollars. This breaker prepares for market, egg, stove, chestnut, pea, buckwheat, rice, barley and silk (the finer culm).

In normal times 45,000 tons were shipped to market every month.

The pumps that are installed in the mines are capable of discharging 6,000 gallons of water a minute.

Before the depression the monthly payroll amounted to \$110,000.

On Oct. 20, 1924, the first cars of unprepared coal from Mid Valley was delivered to the new colliery by Lehigh Valley engine No. 956, the engineer was Mr. Breitmeyer, conductor Mr. Long, trainmen F. P. Dougherty, Jos. Gothie and Sam Rhoades. The first empty cars were delivered the same day and the first car to be shipped from this breaker was Lehigh Valley car No. 15,522 and was loaded with barley coal.

Ten Men Killed In Mine

On Easter Monday, April 6, 1885, ten men were imprisoned underground in a cave-in at Cuyler Colliery. They were: Wm. Anderson and his son, John, John Cavanaugh, Michael Herrity, Daniel Kenny, Ben Maurey, Frank McLaughlin, Harry Mervine, Nick Purcell, and Bernard Smith, all of Raven Run. These ten men were the only ones who were working on that day, as the colliery was idle. They were engaged in the lower lift, retimbering the gangway. The accident happened at two o'clock in the afternoon and hope of saving the men alive was given up almost at once, when it was found that the rescuing party could not get within 400 feet of the gangway in which they were working. The mine was a complete wreck. Seven widows and thirty fatherless children were left behind by the miners who lost their lives. The mine was operated by S. U. Heaton and was soon to have been closed for it had been nearly worked out and the lease was to expire in a few months. As a result of the accident, the mine had to be abandoned.

Weston Coal Company

The Shenandoah Water and Gas Co., desiring more water for dry weather, drilled a well west of their water dam and found a vein of coal 16 feet in thickness. They ceased drilling operations because the coal vein made the water unfit for drinking purposes.

The Girard Estate followed up this drilling operation and drilled holes over all the Locust Mountain from the water dams to Raven Run. When they finished their work, they were ready to lease the ground and give the interested parties the information as to the amount and location of the coal on Locust Mountain.

Several spirited bids were given and the lease was awarded to the late Baird Snyder, representing Bethlehem and Philadelphia capitalists. He received the lease because his company paid, to the Girard Estate, the highest royalty ever paid on coal in this region.

Mr. Baird Snyder formed a company called the Locust Mountain Co. The colliery and village was called Weston. Work began in November, 1912 and the first coal was run through the breaker on April 8, 1914.

Baird Snyder did not live to see this colliery in operation, being killed in an automobile accident at Wapwallopen near Wilkes Barre on July 6, 1913.

The company opened a tunnel, a mile in length, above Brownsville. to bring the coal from the tunnel workings and strippings to the top of the breaker.

They were the only workings in this section of the region to drain water from the operations by means of gravity and thus save the tremendous cost of pumping.

The breaker was modern in every detail and was electrified. All outside machinery, as well as mine machinery, was operated by electricity or compressed air. Steam was used to heat the breaker and office buildings.

Their extensive stripping operations opened a gap on the top of Locust Mountain as wide and as deep as the Panama Canal. It was the only operation where it was not necessary to hoist the coal to the top of the breaker.

The rock bank put out by this company, during the course of its operation, covered an area occupied by twenty-three families. Their homes were torn down and new

homes were built in another section of Brownsville.

The first officials of the Locust Mountain Co. were: B. H. Stockett, Supt.; Chas. King, Outside Foreman; George Thomas, Inside Foreman; Peter Klitch, Breaker Boss; Wm. Thomas, Chief Clerk.

On May 1, 1933, the Locust Mountain Co., ceased operations because the tunnel and strippings were worked out.

On July 16, 1933, the Weston Coal Co. was formed and is now purchasing "run of the mine" coal from Packer No. 5 mine, near Girardville, for its breaker. Packer No. 5 is owned by the Lehigh Valley Coal Co.

The first officials of the Weston Coal Co. were: J. D. Lewis, Supt.; Chas. V. King, Outside and Inside Foreman; N. M. Stickler, Chief Clerk.

The first train of empty coal cars to be put in the old Locust Mountain Yard to be loaded were pulled there by Lehigh Valley Engine No. 229. The engineer was Wm. H. Mozer; Conductor, Griff Linder; Fireman, Fred Hartzell; Brakemen, Thos. Bear, F. P. Dougherty, and Arthur Harkus.

On March 22, 1922, the Locust Mountain Coal Co. shipped from its breaker 42,117 tons of coal in 115 railroad cars, the greatest tonnage ever shipped from that breaker. The train crew that handled that tonnage was composed of the following: Engineer, David Smith; Fireman, William Lorah, Trainmen, Harry Ginther, Harry Edinger, and Thos. Reeves, on Lehigh Valley engine No. 318.

SHENANDOAH HEIGHTS

What is now Shenandoah Heights was once a picturesque mountain. This new settlement was started in

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the year 1920 and is now a progressive residential section.

Mr. Goldberg, a New York real estate dealer, came to Shenandoah and decided on the mountain north of Shenandoah as a beautiful site for a town. He was aided by Louis and Nathan Auerbach, Atty. Zigmond Rynkiewicz, Daniel Ferguson, Henry Houck and Harry Manns, a civil engineer. The carpenters who came from New York and other distant points, lived in shacks built especially for them.

The Heights Fire Co., on Schuylkill Ave., was the first organization to be founded, after the citizens of the Heights had taken up their residence there. Prior to the building of a fire house in 1923, all meetings were held in a pool room. The organizers of the Fire Co. were Jas. Walsh and Jos. Karvois. The first Fire Chief was George Sneddon; the first President was Patrick Sweeney. The first fire on record was at the home of Joseph Karvois on Ohio Ave. It caused little damage. Early in its history, the fire company assisted in fighting the fires at the Brownsville and Weston Place Schools. The first Fire Co. building was a wooden one-story building which was taken over in 1922 by Father Devers and made into a chapel for the members of the Annunciation Church. It is now known as St. Paul's Chapel. The present fire house, which is a beautiful two-story stucco building on Swatara Road was started in the summer of 1923, most of the work being done by the members. The first fire truck was purchased in 1925 and the alarm system was put in the first year. The present Fire Chief is Tally Derringe and the President is Elias Hopkins, foreman of the Suffolk Colliery.

The family of George Smith, who was the carpenter boss of the Shen-

andoah Heights Construction Co., was one of the first to reside there. The Smiths were the only residents of the settlement for two days, and the first on Schuylkill Ave. Among the other early residents were the Narutzskys, Sweeneys, Browns, Sneddons, Wysoskys, Klines, Nestors, and Al. Hill.

Marshall Hughes, deceased, was the first on Indiana Ave.; Lindermuths, first on Florida Ave.; Jenkins, first on Virginia Ave.; Browns, first on Ohio Ave.; Lawyer A. J. Nowakowski, deceased, first resident on Penna. Ave., in the home now occupied by Tony Conti; John Hurczewski, first resident on Arizona Ave., and James Crane, first on Swatara Road.

The first child born on the Heights was Lucy Makarczak, Nov. 22, 1922. The first marriage in the same year was that of Wm. Lasusky and Anna Donshock. The first person to die was Edward Nestor, Sept. 20, 1925. The first Volunteer World War Veteran was Adam Bokuniewicz.

The first apartment house was built by A. Sweet. The first deputy constable was Arthur Collins, first Justice of the Peace was John Donovan. First store was Steck's, opened Sept. 1, 1922; first saloon, Cegiel-sky's. Peter Woodrow had the first barber shop; Pierce Tomlin, the first drug store. The first and only farmer on Shenandoah Heights is Mr. Popiel. Mr. Levitsky was the first tailor; Marion's was the first beauty shoppe; first minister, Rev. Rees Morgan, who came in 1930 to Calvary Baptist Church; P. Franks was the first blacksmith; Dr. Wm. Feifer, first dentist; Edward Soracco, first manager of the A. & P. Store; first hotel was opened by Mr. Kazanas; first roomer in the hotel was Mr. Roberts. The first shoemaker was Mr. Scarpino.

Early settlers tell of picking huckleberries in their cellars. Walter Lazar tells of picking mushrooms in his garage. The mountains were rich in these products before the building up of the Heights and many people visited those mountains to pick mushrooms and huckleberries some for their own use and others for market.

The Heights Swimming Pool owned by Z. Rynkiewicz, Esq., is one of the finest pools in the region. The Penna. Power and Light Co. sub-station is built on the Heights occupying the grounds between the Nurses' Home and the Swimming Pool. This company takes a decided interest in its grounds.

When this sub-station was first built, James McCool, a twelve year old boy of Schuylkill Ave., climbed to the top of a tower to recover a kite that had been fastened between the high tension wires and was severely shocked and burned. He died later in the Locust Mt. Hospital from the effects.

West of the Heights are the cemeteries. The first cemetery is the Odd Fellows opened in 1871 and remodeled in 1931. Since then there have been added more than ten cemeteries for all nationalities.

Lawyer Z. Rynkiewicz, Shenandoah Heights, has the most beautiful residence on the Heights. Martin Gruler, druggist, also has a magnificent home.

Most of the prominent residents on the Heights are: Z. Rynkiewicz, Esq.; Dr. Bierman, oculist; William Lewis, Notary Public; Martin Gruler, druggist; Rev. Rees Morgan and Alvin Cook; Mrs. Thos. Tallet, social welfare worker, Chas. B. Whitaker, Insurance Broker; Jas. Walsh, Prudential Insurance Agent; John O'Brien, retired foreman of Packer No. 5, and John L. Donovan, President of the school board.

The Heights has streets and sidewalks, curbs, sewers and gutters, gardens and lawns; and plenty of pure sparkling spring water.

The roads were all that the mountain possessed, one to Brandonville and another to the cemeteries. They were familiarly called the "Log Team Road" and the "Dutch Line" or "Cemetery Road." The first road built after the Heights was established was the Schuylkill Road which is the main thoroughfare between the Ringtown Valley and Shenandoah.

Educational Advantages

During the first few years, the children attended Weston Place public school until it became overcrowded and a first class brick building was erected to accommodate the fast growing number of pupils coming into the Heights. The first teachers were: James Crane, principal, seventh and eighth grades; Mary Sweeney, fifth and sixth grades; Jas. McHugh, fourth grade; Catherine McAndrew, third grade; Catherine Whalen, second grade; Mame Ryan, first grade. Mrs. Dower was the first janitress. Daniel Cavanaugh, deceased, was the first truant officer at the Heights.

Then in 1927, six more rooms were added, completing the second story, now accommodating 480 pupils. The teachers in this building for 1934-1935 are: Alberta Tabor, Principal, eighth grade; Edward Menkiewicz, seventh grade; Kathryn McAndrew, sixth grade; Sara Moyer, fifth grade; Kathryn Garrity, fourth grade; Anna Lucas, third grade; Catherine Gibson, second grade; Margaret Miles and Caroline Bolich, first grades; John Kerchurgis, janitor, and Edw. Walakiewicz, attendance officer.

There are a number of children from the Heights attending the Shenandoah Polish, German and Irish Parochial Schools. A hundred

from the eighth grade attend the Shenandoah High School.

Industries

The Heights has two bakers, Moczulskie's Bakery on Virginia Ave. and the Anthracite Baking Co., operated by Hama on Schuylkill Ave. and Ringtown Road.

Navitsky's Garage, built Dec. 1927, accommodates thirty cars.

Mail and Bus Service

There is free mail and parcel post delivery. The first mailman was Carril Moyer and the first parcel post man, Geo. Dove.

There has been bus service between the Heights and Shenandoah since 1923. The first bus driver was Francis Barren. At present, Rudy Falkenstein, Dan Wolfe and Nick Kositis are the bus drivers. The Heights also has a garbage system, the hauling being done by the Zelin-sky Bros.

Locust Mt. Hospital

The Locust Mountain Memorial Hospital was opened at Shenandoah on April 6th, 1926, having been constructed at a cost of \$260,000 and containing 90 beds.

The hospital had been in the course of construction for a number of years and even after the building was completed, it was not opened for patients for several years. Due to the overcrowded conditions at the Ft. Springs Hospital, the residents of the Shenandoah region felt that a hospital should be established nearer to the collieries in that section. During the influenza epidemic when the Ft. Springs Hospital could not accommodate the patients, it was necessary to throw open the new high school at Shenandoah, then in course of being built, as an emergency hospital. The late Father L. B. Norton was one of the leading workers in the cause of a new hospital.

The charter of the Locust Mountain Hospital Association was recorded at the Court House on Dec. 5th, 1917 by M. M. Burke, attorney, who was acting as the solicitor. The purpose, as stated in the charter, was to relieve the wants of the afflicted with the provision that if at any time there should be a deficiency of room, the preference was to be given to accident cases from the mines of Shenandoah and vicinity.

The Trustees were: Rev. L. B. Norton, P. W. Houck, W. G. Gregory, Dr. J. C. Gallagher, B. F. Parrott, and Daniel Guinan, M. H. Carey, John Price and P. J. Broderick. The application for the charter was signed by Father Norton, Jas. Matthews and C. F. Ditchey and it was granted by Judge R. H. Koch.

The list of incorporators or charter members consisted of W. G. Gregory, Shenandoah; M. H. Carey, Lost Creek; B. F. Parrott, John Price, L. B. Norton, Geo. H. Harris, Robt. Patterson, Patrick F. Broderick, P. W. Houck, Shenandoah; John D. Edmunds, Shaft, P. O. (Wm. Penn); John C. Gallagher, M. D., John M. Hough, Harvey H. Hess, J. S. Monahan, M. D., M. M. Burke, Joseph Reeda, Harry Savulak, Martin Zadusky, Shenandoah; Hon. A. S. Schaeffer, Daniel F. Guinan, Mahanoy City; A. B. Lamb, Edw. A. Klitsch, John J. Coughlin, P. W. Bierstein, Chas. F. Ditchey, James Matthews, Shenandoah.

When the hospital finally opened, the trustees became known as the Board of Directors and Joseph Garner took the place of Mr. Carey who had since died.

A financial campaign was launched resulting in the net sum of \$50,000 being raised with which the work was started, Hegeman-Harris Co., Inc. of New York became superintending contractors and their representative, L. H. Culhane, was in charge of the work. Stockton and

Pelton who designed the new County Insane Hospital, were the architects.

With the interference of wartime prices, more money was needed and a new finance committee was organized consisting of J. W. Curtin, Chairman, M. M. Burke, T. R. Edwards, Treas.; Wm. J. Walsh. The building committee was composed of B. H. Stockett, Supt. Locust Mt. Coal Co., Chairman; John Dunlap, Gen. Supt. of the Penna. Light and Power Co.; E. H. Suender, Supt. of the Madeira Hill Coal Co., Jos. Bell and P. K. Kley. W. H. Waters became chairman of the general committee.

The State contributed \$20,000 for equipment, \$10,000 of that amount being used for laundry equipment and the remainder for surgical apparatus.

The three acres of land upon which the three story building stands were donated by the Girard Estate. The funds which were raised for its construction were 85% contributions of the workingmen. Dr. John C. Gallagher, of Shenandoah was selected as surgeon-in-chief and superintendent, but never actively served.

The Jenkin's home was rented to be used as a Nurses' Home, and was occupied Aug. 1, 1929. Miss Mary Kurchinsky was the first superintendent of nurses and the position is being filled at the present by Miss Jean Hall.

On March 12, 1926, Dr. H. H. Holderman, formerly of Shenandoah and then of Phila., was appointed the Surgeon-in-Chief. He was killed in an auto accident. Dr. Jos. P. Roth was appointed in his place and served until he died of pneumonia in 1934. Dr. Louis C. La Barre is the present Surgeon-in-Chief, assisted by Dr. Lionel Gates.

The first patient to enter the hospital was Frank Nuruskaus, of Shenandoah and the first child born

there was Henry Locust Mountain Dorn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Dorn, born April 17, 1926.

TRANSPORTATION

The Pennsylvania-Schuylkill Railroad was built by the Pennsylvania Railroad Co. and follows the Sch. Valley from Phila. to Pottsville and thence takes a northern trend via Frackville across Broad Mountain into the coal fields of West Mahanoy Township.

This railroad is the outlet for the coal mined in the Susquehanna Collieries Co. mines in West Mahanoy Township.

Reading Railroad

The development of the Shenandoah and Mahanoy Valley, started on the completion of the Mill Creek Branch of the Phila. and Reading Railroads.

The extension of the Mahanoy and Broad Mountain Railroad into West Mahanoy Twp. in 1860 gave the coal operators the necessary transportation facilities. The charter for this road was granted on March 29, 1859. Yea B. Roberts was chief engineer.

The route prescribed was from a point in Mahanoy or Butler Township, thence by the most expedient and practicable route to connect with the Reading and Phila. railroads. It also had the privilege of making lateral roads through Shenandoah, Mine Run, Mahanoy and New Boston Coal Basins.

These lines were extended from time to time until the year of 1862 when this railroad was absorbed by the Phila. and Reading Railroads and the mining of the Great Shenandoah Basin was started.

The original breaker at William Penn was built on the lines of the Phila. and Reading Railroad and was

among the largest in the country. It was in use up to the time of the purchase of this colliery by Mr. Stickney and Mr. Conyngham who in 1893 built the present breaker on the lines of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Lehigh Valley Railroad

The Lehigh and Mahanoy Railroad or the Quakake Railroad was built by the Lehigh Valley Co.

The original charter was granted on April 25, 1857, which authorized the construction of a road from the Beaver Meadow Railroad, at the junction of Quakake and Black Creeks, westwardly up the Quakake Valley and thence to make connections with the Catawissa Railroad between its two summits, with a tunnel in the Township of Rush.

On March 22, 1859, authority was granted to extend this road westwardly to the headwaters of and down the Mahanoy Creek, "as far as may be deemed expedient," and to make connections with any railroad in the Valley, and to construct branches.

Under the provisions of this charter the Lehigh and Mahanoy Railroad was built, being completed as far as Mount Carmel in 1865. The following year it was merged with the Lehigh Valley Railroad by which corporation it has since been owned and operated.

The original line to Mt. Carmel, in 1865, was a single track but later due to increasing business it was changed to a double track system.

It has a branch to Ashland and many lateral communications with the Weston Coal Co., Hazle Brook Coal Co. in Raven Run, and Packer Collieries Nos. 2, 3, 4, in Lost Creek.

Schuylkill Traction Co.

The Schuylkill Traction Co. was an outgrowth of the Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Girardville, and Ash-

land Railroad Co. It was incorporated in October, 1890 and the incorporators were: M. J. Whalen and C. C. Titman.

The Edison General Electric Co. of New York did the electrical work for \$100,000. The construction of the roadbed was started near Wm. Penn on Nov. 17. The Thomson-Houston Co. did the electrical construction work and on Nov. 25, the rails and spikes were started.

The first trolley cars were unloaded near Frank Reagan's home in Lost Creek.

On the afternoon of April 7, 1892, the first car was run over the line. The passengers were: Judge Sadler, of Carlisle; D. D. Phillips, Gordon; Elias Davis, Broad Mountain; McHenry Wilhelm, Esq., Ashland; W. C. Bright, Ashland; John F. Finerty, H. C. Boyer, W. J. Watkins, J. J. Dougherty, J. J. Kelley, Councilman Pallen, Adam Mort, W. J. Evans, T. J. Higgins and Chief Burgess Smith, all of Shenandoah.

The line of the Schuylkill Traction Co. passed through or near the following villages in West Mahanoy Twp., Deansville, Lost Creek, Colorado, Lower and Upper Wm. Penn and Brownsville. This company passed out of existence in 1929.

West Mahanoy Twp., Frackville

The Frackville section of West Mahanoy Township was originally owned by Charles Cherry, Christian Keister and Peter Yoh.

The land was laid out by A. J. Womelsdorf in 1875. It passed into the hands of the Thompson Estate in the year 1898 and was sold by them in 1914 to the Frackville Realty Co. They in turn sold portions of it to real estate dealers who began building on a large scale in 1921. Albert Pasker was one of the contractors and built many of the houses. The first election was held

in the Frackville section in 1924. The election board officials were: Judge, Geary Hower; Inspector, Wm. Bendrick; Inspector, Peter Pasker; Clerk, Anthony Bendrick; Clerk, Margaret Petri.

For many years the children of that part of West Mahanoy Twp., located in Frackville, were compelled to attend the Frackville Borough Schools, as the slow settlement of that section did not warrant the erection of a school building. The tuition of the pupils was paid by the West Mahanoy Twp. School Board.

By 1923, the section had grown to such an extent that it seemed advisable to provide a school in the township.

A dwelling owned by Albert Pasker and located at 317 S. Line St., was rented and equipped for school purposes and there in Sept. 1923, the first school was opened. The teachers were Misses Mary Sweeney, Anna Murphy, Kathryn Hanley and May Coyle. The enrollment was about 85 pupils.

Meanwhile, a site was selected and a contract awarded for the erection of a four room school on South Green St. The building was finished and ready for the opening of school in Sept. 1924. The teachers were: Misses Mary K. McGrath, Anna Murphy, Kathryn Hanley, and May Coyle. The enrollment was about 100 pupils.

The building boom, which began in 1921, continued—and by 1926 it seemed certain that the four room school building would not be large enough to accommodate the number of children in that part of the town

ship. Accordingly in the summer of 1927, four additional rooms were built. The building, a modern two-story edifice has a steam heat plant and electric fresh air ventilators.

When the school was opened in 1924, there were only one or two houses in the immediate vicinity. Since then homes have been built all around it, and the present enrollment is 313 pupils.

In 1931, a May Day celebration was arranged by the teachers and presented May 28 on the school grounds. All the pupils, numbering about 270, participated. The May Day celebration is now an annual event.

The teachers in the school term of 1934-35 are: Misses Mary K. McGrath, Jennie Dixon, Mary Malarkey, Margaret McDonald, Eleanor Sneddon, Anna Hanley, Mary Cavanaugh, Mary Gallagher, and Anna Grabosky.

The War Veterans of Frackville Altamont Section, are as follows: Civil War—Samuel Kramer; World War: Frank Richardson, Wm. Loomis, Lincoln Hogan, Matthew Katinowsky, Harry Hummel, John Zeilonis, Andrew Walites, John Walites, Stanley Raginsky, Warren Phillips, Stanley Yeslusky, Raymond Pasker, Chas. Faust, Jas. Coon, Chas. Kowker, John Guzy, Peter Pasker, Albert Pasker, Andrew Donchok, Jos Mitchell, Albert Phillips, Edw. Phillips, Jos. Sinouskie, Thos. McCluskey, Wm. Eiche, Irvin Speidel, Stanley Walker, Oscar Beaver, Thos. Roberts, Alex Wonderlich, Ralph Curry and Anthony Walites.

Mahanoy City Chartered in 1863

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper"*, February 8-16, 1935)

Most of the early history of Mahanoy City was taken from the account written by Mrs. T. H. B. Lyon. A great deal of information was obtained by Garfield Lewis, Jeanne Faust, John Malone, Josephine Unsinn, Jane Glaudel, Elsie Oliver, Robert Lowe, Bertha Tulin, Jane Maher and Anna Ryan, from interviews with Mrs. R. P. Swank, Mrs. T. L. Thomas and William H. Boyer.

The history was compiled by Theresa Lusckus, Lillian Bonavage, Charles Welsh and Charles Doorley. The typists were Theresa Lusckus, Lillian Bonavage, Freida Tulin, Leodania Wysocki, Josephine Matalavage and Anna Gnall.

Mahanoy City, a promising little town, has grown into prominence within a comparatively few years, and now easily assumes the third place in population and second in commercial importance in Schuylkill County. The settlement of the village began practically in 1859, previous to which date there were a few settlers on the village site, but it did not assume the dignity of even a small village. On Dec. 16, 1863, the charter was granted by the court, and thus a prosperous little city was ushered into existence. A post office was established in 1859 with John Lindemuth as the postmaster, Mrs. Severn was postmistress for years in the post office on Main Street where Haughney's restaurant is now located.

The name Mahanoy City is no doubt a corruption of the Indian name Maghonioy. In describing a tract of land purchased of the Five Nations, these words are used: "Running up to the north side of the mouth of the creek called in the language of the Delaware Indians, Maghonioy." That creek is now called Mahanoy Creek, which is a branch of the Big River, Sus-

quehanna, and this creek runs through the Borough of Mahanoy City. The town no doubt takes its name from the creek. Maghonioy is a beautiful name and it is a great pity that it should ever have been corrupted into the doubtful name of Mahanoy.

The Iroquois had conquered all the Indian tribes in Pennsylvania many years before there were any white settlers on the present territory of Schuylkill County. This was merely a hunting ground for the Delaware Indians, and not a permanent residence for any tribe. So we get the name, not from the real owners of the land, but from these wandering hunters. There never was any attempt, as far as known, for even a temporary abiding place by any of these tribes. The country was not fitted for Indian towns, being too rocky and barren, while the streams were rough and carried a heavy undergrowth of laurel, which prevented fishing and any easy way of canoe travel by short stages.

The origin of the first house built within the limits of the town is very obscure. Some say it was

built by an old German hunter named Reisch, who used to spend most of his time in the woods. It was an old log house when first known and situated on the east side of the old Catawissa turnpike, which is now Main Street, and directly opposite the offices of the Mansion House.

Many different tenants seem to have occupied this old log house temporarily. It was used as a hostelry and as a possession house. In the latest written account of the "Peddler's Grave" we read how Jost. Folhaber, the old peddler, and his murderer, Benjamin Bailey, lodged in Reisch's log house before the tragedy. The front part of the house was torn down, and the back part moved to the lower end of the third lot on Centre St., where it served as a kitchen for the new tavern erected by Jacob Faust for Emanuel Boyer in 1853.

Early Settlers Were Welsh

Many of the early settlers of the borough and township were Welsh people attracted to the place by the flattering opportunities for mining with which business they were familiar in their native country. Emanuel Boyer was the first permanent resident of Mahanoy City. His house stood on the third lot from what is now Main St., on the south side facing Centre. It is the lot on which Noonan's Department Store is now located. Mr. Boyer was asked, by the Little Schuylkill Company, to come here and settle to keep possession of the tract of land purchased by them from the Kunkle heirs. Henry Stauffer, one of the early settlers, was one of the organizers of the township, and a man of influence and prominence. He settled in the township in 1808, and his son, H. H. Stauffer, served many years as a justice of the peace

and in other official places in the town and county.

When Mr. Boyer settled here his nearest neighbor was Wm. Faust, who was stationed by the Little Schuylkill Company in a possession house on a small farm back of what is now known as Lanigan's Patch—three miles from Mahanoy City. Mr. Boyer, the first resident here, was given the choice of the four corners at the junction of Main and Centre Streets. He took three lots on the southeast corner and built on the third lot. The northeast corner was purchased by Thompson Brothers, who erected a large store which was occupied by one of the brothers, Dr. L. C. Thompson. The First National Bank now owns and occupies this corner. The southwest corner, opposite the first log house, was built up by the Little Schuylkill Company for a hotel and is now known as the Mansion Hotel. Its first landlord was Wilbur Smith. William Agard bought the northeast corner and built a house on the third lot facing Main Street, which was occupied as a possession house by Edward Boyer, who sold drinks by the quart. He was a distant relative of Emanuel Boyer.

The first and second lots were purchased from Emanuel Boyer by John C. Knapp. Mr. Knapp conducted a butcher shop in the vicinity and constructed a Fairbanks weigh scales at the northeast corner of the present Main and Market Streets where farmers came to weigh their wagons of produce. Weigh scales, convenient for all purposes, occupied the space in the street directly in front of what is now Shandri's News Agency. Mayer and Trier had a tailoring establishment on the first lot of Knapp's for years. The Merchants Trust Co. was located on this lot years before they moved to their present location.

Acre of Land for Day's Work

A man by the name of Kunkel owned thousands of acres of land in Mahanoy City and it is said that he offered an acre of land to any many for a day's work. What is Main St. was the old Catawissa turnpike, and the old log house, whose main part was torn down about 1850, was the only house for three miles along that road. The mountain house was built afterwards as a possession house and road house.

On the hillside north of the Reading depot is a burying ground. No one knows who is buried there. The graves were fenced in when Mr. Boyer came here, and there were no headstones or marks of any kind to tell whose bodies they contained. The graves are now entirely obliterated, and only a few of the oldest inhabitants even remember having seen them.

Before the channel of the creek was changed, the lots along Main St. reaching from what is now Market St. to Mahanoy Avenue, were a bed of brick clay, and Emanuel Boyer built two brick kilns, one near what is now Pine St. and another near the northeast corner of Main and Mahanoy Sts. The bricks were made from clay taken from these lots, and were sold to Kear and Patterson.

There was an old map of Mahanoy City drawn about 1856, but the true map of the town, as now laid out, is the one drawn by Frank Carter in 1859. Mr. Carter came here in the early fifties. He built and lived at the southeast corner of Main and Maple Sts., on the Pottsville road. His brother William lived on Mahanoy Ave., on the tract owned by Troutman, Biddle, and Dundas, in what was called "Hesse Stadt" because Hessians settled in that part of the town. The company used to bring in train loads of these emi-

grants to work in the mines that were just opening.

Houses Were Few

The houses in Mahanoy City were very few and far between, but once the settlers started to build they soon developed a little town. The houses were built of logs with slanting roofs and consisted of one or two rooms. There were wooden pavements where there were no dirt pavements. Each family had a lot of twenty-five feet, and fifteen feet of this lot were used for raising their meager crops. During the winter their food supply for the most part consisted of salted meats, which they had butchered, and a barrel of sauer kraut.

The company leased the land to individual operators with the understanding that each was to mine and ship a certain amount of coal during the year, and E. S. Silliman was the only one of the lessees that carried out his contract in full. Henry Litsch came here and built the first bridge in town, at the junction of Main and Water (now Market) Sts. Litsch's contract called for half payment in store supplies, and Emanuel Boyer boarded the men and took store supplies for payment, so that very little money was exchanged in this business transaction.

The woods were full of game, and the streams were full of fish. An interesting story is told about Mr. Patterson bringing a man from Pottsville to compete with Mr. Boyer at catching fish. His name was "Johnny" Kutsner. The man that caught the greater number of fish from six o'clock in the morning until four in the afternoon received five dollars. Boyer gave his opponent the choice of streams and to Boyer was left the Tunnel stream, and between here and the Tunnel Boyer caught four hundred trout.

Borough Was Incorporated

In the year 1863 the Borough of Mahanoy City was incorporated. There were seventy-three signers to the petition. Some of the freeholders of the town were: G. E. Brendle, Emanuel Boyer, William H. Heidenreich, G. R. Goodman, John Hersker, Jacob Frank and Jacob Deem. In 1866 it was divided into five wards—First and Second, being west of Main St., and Third, Fourth and Fifth, east of Main St.

John Eichman was the first Chief Burgess, elected in 1865, and was re-elected for seven consecutive terms. Emanuel Boyer was elected Chief Burgess in 1871. Frank Wenrich was elected in 1872. He served in the Pottsville First Defenders in the War for the Union. He was First Lieutenant in the Silliman Guards until he moved from town. He was arrested and tried for complicity in the Wiggan's Patch Riot, but was triumphantly vindicated of the charge. George Major was elected Chief Burgess in 1874. Herskers lived where the Wallauer store is now located and during a fire, back of this property on Railroad St., Geo. Major was shot and later died of the wounds.

The Silliman Guards were mustered in November 1875—Captain, John F. Schoener; First Lieutenant, Frank Wenrich; Second Lieutenant, S. S. Hoppes.

The population of Mahanoy City in 1900 was 13,504 and its commercial interests were represented in 1906 by 409 business houses engaged in all different lines of mercantile traffic.

The present officers of the town are: Chief Burgess, Patrick Foley; Fire Chief, William Powell, and Chief of Police, Anthony P. McLaughlin.

Chairmen of Council Committees are: Street, David Lyons; Police and

Light, Ronald Reed; Fire and Water, George Walker; Finance, Donald Noakes; Law and Ordinance, Chas. McLaren, and Sanitary, Joseph Anceravage.

Board of Health is composed of Pres., John Morgan; Secy., Edward Gately; Health Office, Harry Martin; Members, John Carson, Wm. B. Reed, and Dr. R. R. Keiser.

The Councilmen are as follows: Charles McLaren, President; Ronald Reed, Clarence Williams, William Lynch, David Lyons, John Wargo, Wilbur Webb, John Pasioka, Donald Noakes, Wm. D. Becker, Robert Suender, Geo. Heinze, Jos. Anceravage, Geo. Walker, Jos. Jenkins.

Fire Companies

The Humane Fire Co. No. 1 was organized June 18, 1868, with 24 members. Michael Kelley is the present president.

The Citizens Fire Company No. 2 was organized in Feb., 1870. Five years later a Silsby fire engine was added to the equipment, thus completing what was then a very efficient force. The present president is John Kleindienst.

The Hook and Ladder Fire Co. was organized Mar. 29, 1886. Jas. Painter is the present president.

The Good American Fire Co. was organized in 1893. They have two trucks which cannot be excelled in combating fire. The present president is Henry Schreyer.

The West End Fire Co. held its first meeting in Nork's Hall in 1925 for the purpose of organizing. In 1926, they held a bazaar to raise money for a building which they started to construct in 1927. A modern truck was purchased in 1931. John Urban was the first Pres. This company is no longer a part of the fire department.

The Churches

The Presbyterian Church was organized in 1861, and the church edifice was erected in 1862.

The Church of Faith, Protestant Episcopal, was organized on Aug. 18, 1864, and the building of a house of worship was at once begun.

Members of St. Paul's Reformed Church, the first services of which denomination were held in 1862, elected a Consistory on Jan. 17, 1863, and thus completed the formal organization of the church. A house of worship was erected in 1864, and dedicated on Sept. 17, 1865.

The Welsh Congregational Church was formally organized on Dec. 20, 1863, and a house of worship was erected in 1865.

The American Primitive Methodist Church was established in 1864; the Zion Welsh Baptist in 1865; the English Baptist in Mar., 1867. The Salem United Evangelical Church was established as early as 1859, and St. John's Lutheran Church in 1867. Christ Church of the German Evangelical Lutheran denomination was organized in May, 1867.

The First Methodist Episcopal Church held its first mission from 1861 to 1863. The church building was constructed in 1864.

The English speaking Catholic Church in Mahanoy City, was more than three years in construction, and was dedicated in July, 1866, by Bishop Wood, of Phila. It is known as St. Canicus Church.

St. Fidelis German Catholic Church was erected in 1866. The first High Mass was celebrated in the unfinished building on Christmas Day.

St. Joseph's Lithuanian Catholic Church was completed in 1888. The church choir is an outstanding accomplishment of the congregation.

The Polish Catholic Church was

organized in 1903. It is known as St. Casimir's Church.

The Italian Catholic Church, known as the Sacred Heart Church, was organized in 1908.

St. Mary's Greek Catholic Church was constructed in 1891. A new church was built in 1931.

St. Mary's Slovak Catholic Church was organized in the latter part of the 1800's.

The St. Nicholas Ukranian Church was constructed in 1923. The Slovak Lutheran Church was erected in 1904.

The Christian Science Society of Mahanoy City became a branch of the Mother Church, the first church of Christ Scientist of Boston, Mass., about Nov. 1911, and met in Williams' Hall, 523 E. Centre St., Mahanoy City. It now meets at 231 E. Mahanoy Ave., Mahanoy City.

The Schools

The first School Board met in 1862 and consisted of five men: Dr. Louis Thompson, Frank Carter, Mr. Walborn, David Klingerman, and one other of which there is no record. Oliver Bechtel was the first candidate for the teacher's position, and was elected the first public school teacher. He taught in a log school house at Spruce and Linden Streets.

In 1863, a four room school house was built of brick. The new teachers elected were: Harry I. Williams, Anna K. Wilson and Melinda Dimmick.

In 1864, John M. Barry was elected President of the School Board; David Phillips, Treasurer, and John M. Cunningham, Secretary. W. H. Heidenreich, Balentine Benner and John Tobin were the other members of the Board.

In 1864, Oliver Bechtel resigned and later became Judge of Schuylkill County. James V. Brunner took his place. Then the schools were graded High, Grammar, Secondary and Primary.

Mr. Brunner was the first High School teacher. Harry I. Williams took charge of the Grammar School; Melinda Dimmick the Secondary School, and Anna K. Wilson, the Primary School. Between 1864 and 1866 nearly 700 names appeared on the school roll.

In 1867, the Pine Street brick building was erected at a cost of \$7,646.82. While the building was being erected, the children went to school in the basement of "Welsh Congregational" Church. Elizabeth Jeffries and Jennie Thomas were the first ones to teach in this basement. The population of the town at this time was about 4500.

At midnight, Jan. 9, 1867, the Spruce Street School building caught fire but it was soon extinguished and little damage done.

In 1871 the Centre Street building was built at a cost of \$20,000.00. The east room on the third floor was used as the High School until 1880 when the High School was transferred to the Pine Street building. In 1875 a brick annex of six rooms was added to the Spruce Street building.

In 1884 the Pine Street building was torn down because it was too small and in its place a new eight room building was erected. While this was being built the High School was held in the Armory Hall, from 1885 to 1898. In 1888 a new building was erected in the First Ward. In 1893, the Twelfth Street building was built.

The High School enrollment in 1893 was 83 and the Grammar School enrollment in 1896 was 112.

The High School was organized in 1864 and the first class to have commencement exercises was the Class of "1875." The members of this class were: Thomas J. Parmley—Valedictorian; Allen H. Swalm—Salutatorian; Charles Snyder, Jr.,

Carrie Bricker, Howard O. Bensing and Ralph Bricker.

In 1875 there were six graduates, while in 1933 there were 204. The smallest class was the class of 1877 with two graduates. Grammar School was organized in 1864 with the first commencement in 1892.

The number of teachers and pupils in December 1934 consisted of: Mahanoy St. Building (4 teachers), 117 pupils; Spruce St. Building (10 teachers), 306 pupils; Pine St. Building (7 teachers), 236 pupils, and Twelfth St. Building (8 teachers), 251 pupils. Total, 910 pupils.

Jr. High School (12 teachers) 7th Grade, 186 pupils; and 8th Grade, 190 pupils. Total, 376.

High School, (21 teachers), Freshmen, 256 pupils; Sophomores, 194 pupils; Juniors, 229 pupils; Seniors, 176 pupils; Post Grads, 10 pupils. Total, 865.

The total enrollment Grades and High School is 2151. Continuation School enrollment: Boys, 17; Girls, 45. Total, 62; Grand total, 2213.

There are 72 teachers, including the Librarian and Nurse.

A list of the Superintendents since 1865 to 1934 is as follows: Elijah Bull, 1865-1868; Channing Stebbins, 1868-1869; Thos. B. Walker, 1869-1870; Eli S. Reinhold, 1870-1871; William L. Balentine, 1871-1890; Frank S. Miller, 1890-1896; William N. Ehrhart, 1896-1914; Hiram W. Dodd, 1914-1916; Harry A. Oday, 1916—

The Officers of the present School Board are: Pres., George G. Lewis; Vice Pres., John J. Joyce; Secy., Oscar F. Skeath; Treas., Dr. David A. Holland; Solicitor, James A. Dolphin; Superintendent, Harry A. Oday; Members: Dr. C. S. Burke, (Chairman of Finance Committee); Edward Northey, (Chairman of Supply Committee); Arthur Jenkins, (Chairman of Repair Committee).

Visiting Nurse Association

On June 2, 1914, a meeting was held in the Citizens Fire Company rooms for the purpose of organizing an Auxiliary Board of Control of the Visiting Nurse Association of the Shenandoah-Mahanoy City District. Dr. Phaon Hermany presided over the meeting, and Misses Mary Hornsby, Sallie Hermany, Carrie Hess, Lulu Kester, Mrs. Thos. B. Wren, Mrs. Gezo Lefkowitz, Mrs. Horace D. Hermany, and Mr. Dailey of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company were also present.

On June 5, another meeting was held and a permanent organization was formed with the following officers: Pres., Mrs. Geo. G. Mayer; vice presidents, Mrs. Thos. B. Wren, Mrs. Gezo Lefkowitz; secy., Mrs. Robert P. Swank; treas., Mrs. Horace D. Hermany.

It was decided to hold a Welfare Exhibit, the week of June 22. This was held with the aid of the State Department of Health in Boczkowski's Hall with most surprising and excellent results.

July 4 was selected as Tag Day to secure funds to start the work. On July 7, it was deemed advisable that inasmuch as the funds were only sufficient for one nurse and if she divided her time between these two towns the service would not be satisfactory, it would be better to form the Mahanoy City Visiting Nurse Association with the motto, "No one in Mahanoy City shall suffer or die neglected."

The Nurse Committee consisting of Dr. Hermany, Rev. Fletcher, Mrs. Wren, Mrs. Wolf and Mrs. Swank, secured Miss May Jenkins at a salary of sixty dollars a month. Miss Jenkins was sent to Reading to study the work of the Society there.

The first month the Visiting Nurse Association had fifteen patients with eighty-nine visits. From the beginning, a "pay patients" service was inaugurated, as well as the regular District work among the poor. From the beginning, half of the work was charity.

The second month of the work, the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company's care of their industrial policy holders was turned over to the Society. This has always been a substantial source of work and income. The people of Mahanoy City have always contributed liberally to this organization. Calls for the nurse come from all sources and classes.

The first year 1,936 visits were made to 250 patients.

The nurses employed by the Association were: Miss May Jenkins, 1 year; Miss Mary Sheurin (Haley), 2 years; Miss Elizabeth Mezzo, 1 year; Miss Jane B. Stevens, 4 months (until called by government for war service; Miss Rose McLaughlin, 3 months; Mrs. Mary Sheurin Haley, 9 months; Miss Jane B. Stevens (Smith), 1 1-2 years; Mrs. Anderson, 6 months; Miss Petronella Schumacher (Sherry), 3 months; Miss Pauline Kistler (Reed), 10 years and Miss Blanche Raudenbush, 2 years.

The officers have been the same since the beginning of the organization except that of the President, Mrs. George G. Mayer, who moved from Mahanoy City in October, 1929. Mrs. Thos. B. Wren was elected President and has since filled the position.

The Board of Managers who are elected annually are, at the present time: Mrs. Chas. Hendricks, Mrs. Anne B. Kline, Mrs. Robert B. Davies, Mrs. Marian Adam, Mrs. Geo. W. Barlow, Mrs. Leon E. Lewis, Mrs. Russell L. Foster, Mrs. Thos.

P. Ryan, Miss Emma Trier and Miss Minnie F. Spencer.

The Welfare Nurses of the Visiting Nurse Association were: Miss Emily A. Roath, School Nurse from Nov. 4, 1921 to May 1922, and Miss Millicent Arnell, School Nurse from January 1923 to June 1924.

The first Toxin-Antitoxin campaign for children under twelve years of age was conducted by Miss Arnell in 1923. This was the beginning of a yearly campaign.

A "Little Mothers' League" was formed and lectures were delivered to all girls above the Sixth Grade.

A "Baby Need" was held in the Mahanoy City High School from April 3 to April 7, 1916. The first day fourteen babies were registered; on the second day, thirty-five, and on the third, fifty-six.

In the afternoons lectures were given by the following: Dr. Evans, Dr. Riley, Dr. Hermany, Dr. Seligman and Dr. Bredt.

The evening lectures were by Dr. Wagner, Dr. Miller, Dr. Stiles and Dr. Olsho. Each afternoon plays were given and pictures shown. "A Leak in the Dyke" was presented by Mrs. Ryan, Miss Reed, Mr. Dolphin, Mr. Maurer and Mr. Williams. "Judith and Ariel" was given by Miss Rinck, and "Mother Goose Up to Date," was presented under the direction of Miss Hornsby.

The first Baby Clinic was held in the 12th Street Building, in June 1922. Miss Kleindienst assisted, and in the first month 255 babies were enrolled. Miss Edith Bray (Keiser) assisted from August 1925 to December 1926. At this time, the total registration was 831. Doctors Holland, Keiser and Seligman aided in the clinics. The Baby Clinic was closed from December 1926 to April 1932. The doctors now serving the Clinic are: Burke, Fenton, Hensyl, Keiser, Richiutti and

Seligman. At the present time the registration is 635.

The Influenza Epidemic

In October 1918 an epidemic of influenza spread through the town. At the beginning of the epidemic, Frank F. Reed, was Health Officer, and Mr. Palmer was the secretary. These two were soon stricken with the dread disease and the State appointed George J. Post and John Goyne to the respective positions.

The first place to be used as a hospital was the Kaier Hotel. This was soon overcrowded and the Mahanoy City High School Building was then pressed into service. Witnesses stated that the place was strewn with victims. The Junior High School was used as a morgue and the Elk's Home served as headquarters.

Much assistance was rendered the Board of Health by the Faculty of the Mahanoy City Public Schools who acted as clerks, stenographers, secretaries, etc. The P. & R. C. & I. Co. also gave valuable assistance.

The first victim was William H. Kohler, cashier of the Union National Bank. At the time he was stricken, it was not known that he had the "flu."

All of the churches, schools, theatres and other public houses were closed.

Other Epidemics

The infantile paralysis epidemic began in Mahanoy City in August 1916. Many local people contracted the disease. Schools and churches were closed.

The first epidemic of small pox was in 1872, and the second occurred in 1904. The vaccine used during these epidemics was so strong that many lost their arms. Rose Quin and Weslie Smith died of the disease. Dr. Klock and Dr. Dunn contracted the disease in the performance of their duties.

The scarlet fever epidemic began in September 1892 and measles in 1933.

Bursting of Dam

On Friday evening, June 17, 1892, just after dusk, the dam, swollen beyond its greatest capacity by more than a week of incessant rainfall, burst. The millions of gallons of water behind the clay breast of the reservoir broke past its confines and tumbled in a great cascade toward Main St.

Dr. Louis Weber was the first to break the news of the impending floodwaters. He came down Main St. with only three wheels on his carriage, the horse running wild, and yelling, "Run for your lives." Excitement prevailed in the darkness as families fled to the hillsides fearing a repetition of the Johnstown flood of just three years before. The time of the break is placed between 8:00 and 9:20 o'clock, and women and children ran to the hills in bare feet.

On the crest of the flood rode logs, chicken coops, outhouses, trees, and barrels from the Kaier Brewery. A section of the flood swirled along the creek channel, north of Railroad St., but when the debris blocked the creek culvert near the old gas house the water turned back to Main St.

At Main and Centre Sts., the water was knee deep and the high water mark was at the pavement before Christ Lutheran Church at Main and Mahanoy Sts. The houses and cellars along Main St. were swept with water and the floorings covered with culm seepage. Following the receding of the water it took weeks for local people to clear their homes and the town of the dirt from the flood.

Strikes

In the year 1900, the miners voiced their protests against the existing wage scale and declared a strike throughout the coal regions. This strike lasted six weeks and resulted

in a ten per cent. increase in the wages of all mine workers.

Two years later, another strike broke out, caused by the miners' dissatisfaction with the wages, hours and the method of weighing coal. The workers demanded an increase in wages, and decrease in hours and payment for coal, by weight, wherever practicable, rather than by car.

The following mandate was issued:

"Presidents of local unions and mine committees are hereby instructed to wait upon mine superintendents and notify them that on, and after Monday, June 2, all engineers, firemen and pumpmen are expected to work only eight hours each day, and are to receive present wages."

In obedience to this order, approximately 147,000 men walked out on strike in May 1902 and remained idle until October of the same year.

It is practically impossible to state accurately the losses occasioned by the strike. In wages, the employees lost a total of \$25,000,000 and \$1,800,000 was distributed in relief funds.

The Strike Commission made awards in 1903 for a period of three years. The next agreement was signed May 7, 1906 and another on April 29, 1909. When three years expired the agreements were signed May 20, 1912, followed by the agreement of May 5, 1916. An agreement supplemental to that of May 5, 1916 was made April 25, 1917, November 15, 1918, and September 29, 1915. The last agreement was made September 2, 1920.

Again in 1925, the miners showed dissatisfaction with their wages, by declaring a strike, which lasted for six months, from September to March. It was finally brought to a close, and the men went back to work on the original wage scale.

The following are the collieries in Mahanoy City: Mahanoy City, working, 550 men employed; North Mahanoy, idle, 750 men employed; Tunnel Ridge, idle, 700 men employed;

Park Place, idle, 1100 men employed. Primrose; Buck Mountain, idle, 900 men employed; Vulcan.

Approximately 15 per cent. of the idle men listed, have found jobs at neighboring collieries.

The original and present names of the collieries are here given, the original name being first:

Silliman's	North Mahanoy Hills
Coles	Mahanoy City Tunnel Ridge Steels
Primrose Foundry (now part of Tunnel Ridge)	Elmwood Lawton's Colliery—abandoned 35 years ago

Note: First coal was shipped the spring of 1864.

Transportation Routes

Mahanoy City lies on the New York and Cleveland air route, and is in the district known to aviators as the graveyard route. Both passenger and mail planes pass over Mahanoy City daily.

The bus lines passing through town are the Reading-Jersey Central which has its station at Post's Shoe Store, and Lakes-to-Sea Stages, which stop at Noakes' Cigar Store.

The Philadelphia and Reading, and the Lehigh Valley Railroads also, pass through town.

Mahanoy City lies on State Highway Route 45, which was built in 1917.

Relief Work

The relief work of Mahanoy City is under the organization of the Federal and State Emergencies Relief Board. The local unemployed have been put to work at cleaning and rechanneling the creek, fixing the streets, repairing school buildings, and fixing the West End Athletic Field. Relief orders were given out according to family budgets.

Public Utilities

The Mahanoy City Gas Company was incorporated February 21, 1874,

with an authorized capitalization of \$30,000. The plant was completed and the gas turned on, October 1, 1874.

The Light, Heat and Power Company was organized in 1887, and has wrought a revolution in the heating and lighting of the town.

The Mahanoy City Water Co. was organized in February, 1866, at 44 N. Main St. The first owners of the Company were: E. S. Silliman, Sr., G. F. Wiggan and H. M. Parmley.

In June 1929, the Company was sold by the descendants of the first owners to the Inland Utilities. At a later period, 1931, it was made a part of the Southeastern Gas and Water Company, the present owners.

The town has two sources of water supply, gravity system and pumping system.

The gravity system is situated two and one-half miles north of town, and is made up of four reservoirs and two feeder basins with a total capacity of 83,000,000 gallons.

No. 1 Reservoir has a capacity of 10,599,991 gallons and is 1695 feet above sea level.

No. 2 Reservoir has a capacity of 21,817,716 gallons and is 1687 feet above sea level.

No. 3 Reservoir has a capacity of 4,987,230 gallons and is 1687 feet above sea level.

No. 4 Reservoir has a capacity of 34,602,480 gallons and is 1710 feet above sea level.

No. 1 Reservoir is connected to No. 2 Reservoir by two 10 inch pipes and also, to No. 3 Reservoir which is just beyond base of No. 1 Reservoir.

No. 2 Reservoir is piped to distribution reservoir or basin called Craig's feeder, which has a capacity of 750,000 gallons, at which point the distribution to town begins.

No. 1 Reservoir is connected to No. 3 Reservoir and No. 3 Reservoir is also connected to distribution reservoir or Craig's feeder. These three reservoirs are grouped.

No. 4 Reservoir is situated due east of No. 1 Reservoir, a distance of one mile, and is also piped to Craig's feeder.

Distribution reservoir or basin which is called Craig's feeder (1449 feet above sea level) is connected with a 20 inch outlet from which a ten and a twelve inch branch is connected, making a ten and twelve inch supply main to the town (at company office, 46 N. Main St., elevation 1222.8 feet).

No. 4 Reservoir is so situated that in addition to supplying water to Craig's feeder from basin No. 6 through a 12 inch cast iron pipe, it supplies water to basin No. 6. With the addition of springs it supplies a small collecting basin called Shoemaker's feeder, situated a distance of three-fourths mile below No. 4 Reservoir, and to which a 6 inch main is attached and becomes a supply main to town.

Distribution on mains, total length, 72,157 feet, made up as follows: 20 inch pipe, 66 feet; 14 inch pipe, 4648 feet; 12 inch pipe, 8175 feet; 10 inch pipe, 13,731 feet; 8 inch pipe, 10,253 feet; 6 inch pipe, 30,648 feet; 4 inch pipe, 4230 feet; 3 inch pipe, 406 feet.

From Craig's feeder to the near northeast borough line, there is one ten inch and one 12 inch line; also, one six inch line from Shoemaker's. At the borough line all three lines are increased to 14 inch lines which run to Main and Centre Sts., connecting as one unit. At this point the water is distributed through every main street from 10 inch to 6 inch lines. All mains are connected and there are no dead ends, with the exception of the 6 inch line to Tunnel Ridge Colliery which runs into an open tank at the colliery. Lines are also connected at the main cross

streets with mains running on Main St.

There is a total of 81 fire hydrants, of which 2 1-2 per cent. have six inch barrels and six inch connections to the mains and 92 1-2 per cent. have four inch barrels and four inch connections to the mains. Fire hydrants are placed at every intersection, and in business sections are placed at a distance of 100 to 250 feet.

There are also four six inch private sprinkling systems, three four inch private sprinkling systems, and ten private fire plugs. Pressure in the mains is from 65 to 90 pounds.

The source of supply is springs and wells. The distance from the business centre to the gravity source is 2 1-2 miles and to the pumping plant, 6 1-2 miles.

The gravity system streams, Pole Run and Cole Run drainage areas are free from human inhabitants. The gravity system is on top of the mountain without any farms or drainage to pollute the streams. The drainage area of the gravity system is two square miles.

The pumping system plant, Messers Run and Negro Hollow Streams basin, has a drainage area of 5 square miles, and is free from human inhabitants, and no drainage from farms or pollution agencies. The pumping plant is situated at Girard Manor.

The water storage at Lofty Reservoir, elevation 1381 feet, 2 miles due east of pumping station, has a capacity of 117,783,700 gallons, and flows by stream, open ditch to Bluehead Reservoir at the pumping station, elevation at the waste way is 1130 feet. Bluehead Reservoir has a capacity of 24,963,565 gallons. Water from this source is pumped by Snow Horizontal Cross Compound, high duty, crank and fly wheel condensing engine, capacity 3,000,000 gallons per twenty-four hours; elevation at the plant is 1112

feet. It pumps into a 14 inch column, part flange and part Bell and Spigot pipe; pumps against a static head of 827 feet, where it discharges in a cement tank or basin with an elevation of 1939 feet. From this tank it flows by gravity thru a 14 inch Bell and Spigot Pipe directly into No. 1 Reservoir, also thru a side branch into No. 4 Reservoir if not needed in No. 1 Reservoir. It also has a branch to Wyoming Valley Water and Supply Company—(Park Place dam in case Wyoming Valley Water and Supply Company needs water.)

In addition to springs there are the following wells: Wells are pumped only in dry weather. No. 1 Well rear No. 1 Reservoir, 8 inch bore—600 feet deep; No. 2 Well, rear No. 2 Reservoir, 8 inch bore—719 feet deep; No. 3 Well, northeast of No. 1 Reservoir, 8 inch bore—774 feet deep; No. 4 Well, north of No. 4 Reservoir, 8 inch bore—362 1-2 feet deep; No. 5 Well, north of No. 4 Well, 10 inch bore—331 1-2 feet deep; No. 6 Well, at Pumping Station, 10 inch bore—600 feet deep.

These wells are pumped by compressed air compressed by Laidlow Dunn Gordon, 2500 cubic feet per minute. It is situated at Girard Manor. The pipe line is Reading Line pipe, 8 inches in diameter to 2 1-2 inches at the wells. The length of the air line is 25,000 feet.

Two boilers are used to furnish steam for pumps and air compressor, one Babcock & Wilcox boiler 240 H. P. and one Heine Boiler, 160 H. P. In addition to Snow Pump there is one Worthington Compound Condensing Engine, with a capacity of 1,750,000 gallons per 24 hours. This can be used in case of emergency.

Every precaution is used to avoid contamination and pollution. The water is aireated where possible. In addition, at Craig's feeder one Manual Control Vacuum Feed Chlorin-

ator, Type MSVM has been installed. This Chlorinator is in operation at all times, even though there is no need of chlorination.

WAR RECORDS

The Mahanoy City participants in the World War were as follows: Company E, 163 in France; Polish Army, 10; Student Army Training Corps, 30; Volunteers, 811; Mahanoy City's Honored Dead, 35.

World War Dead

Those who died in the World War are as follows:

Pvt. Wm. Barbaris, died of wounds received in action Nov. 5, 1918; Pvt. John Bedding, killed in action, Oct. 15, 1918; Pvt. Jos. Benedict, died of wounds, Oct. 28, 1918; Pvt. Harry T. Boyle, killed in France, Sept. 27, 1918; Pvt. John E. Burke, died Oct. 1918.

Pvt. Michael J. Christoff, died in France, March 4, 1918; Pvt. Angelo Consorte, died in France, Oct. 22, 1918; Pvt. John Cooper, died in France, Nov. 7, 1918; Pvt. Hayden P. Davis, died at Ft. Banks Hospital, Sept. 1, 1917; Pvt. Frank Dochney, died in Base Hospital, France, Oct. 25, 1918; Boatswain John Dodds, died Sept. 29, 1918, Naval Hospital, New York City.

Pvt. John Dolney, killed in action, Oct. 7, 1918; Pvt. Joseph F. Donahue, died Oct. 9, 1918, on board troop ship; Pvt. Patrick Doris, died in France (date undetermined); Pvt. Edwin Dreisbach, died at camp; Pvt. Jos. Hall, killed in action, July 14, 1918.

Pvt. Wm. J. Harris, died at Ft. Oglethorpe, Ga., Oct. 13, 1918; Pvt. Wm. Karnaras, killed Sept. 5, 1918; Pvt. Jos. Kasperavicz, died at Camp Logan, Oct. 1918; Pvt. Michael Lucyk, lost life on "Oranto" Oct. 6, 1918; Pvt. Michael F. Moran, died at Camp Jones, Nov. 8, 1918; Pvt. John Muldoon, died in France (date undetermined).

Pvt. Daniel McCulla, died Oct. 4, 1918; Pvt. Wm. F. McLaughlin, killed in action, Oct. 9, 1918; Pvt. Leo Raczkowski, killed in action, Nov. 1918; Pvt. George Reese, killed in action, July 15, 1918; Sergt. Edward G. Romanosky, killed in action, August 7, 1918; Pvt. Richard Sheehan, killed in France, Oct. 11, 1918.

Sergt. Stephen Waak, died of wounds received in action, Nov. 6, 1918; Pvt. John Wargo, died of wounds, Sept. 26, 1918; Pvt. Jos. Wassell, died Sept. 26, 1918; Pvt. Claude Wertz, died of wounds, Sept. 26, 1918; Francis Weeks, killed in action, Nov. 9, 1918.

A tree is planted at the East End Park for each soldier that died in the World War. Experts of State College witnessed the proper location in marking the trees at the East End Park. The expense was paid by the Sunday Schools, Churches and Lodges. The cost for planting and marking each tree was five dollars. Mrs. R. P. Swank, John D. Giffin and J. W. Strong were on the committee.

Spanish-American Veterans

The Mahanoy City Spanish War Veterans who are living at present are: Harry A. Oday, Wm. A. Dennis, Jas. Painter, Robert Anthony, Chas. Bishop, Hugh Burns, Nathan Becker, Jos. Bertzel, Geo. Beers, Jas. Curtis, Peter Dennis, Wm. Davis, Michael Foley, Richard Fritz, Henry Fogarty, Frank Feichtner, Robert Garser, Francis Grow, John Hanlon, John Jones, Wm. James, Jacob Keipe, Louis Loiseau, Jas. Mengle, Michael McGuire, Geo. Nause, Frank Prosser, Charles Rhoads, John Schmolze, Harry Shafer, John Salmon, Geo. Speidel, Frank Thiel, Frank Warner, Wm. Wallser, Louis Witchey, Jas. Werntz, Geo. Yarnall.

Three hundred and six men of Mahanoy City served in the Civil War.

Newspapers

In 1865 "The Mahanoy Gazette" was started by Dr. G. H. B. Swayze. Wm. Ramsay purchased it in 1866. In 1878 this paper was bought by Andrew Comrey and T. H. B. Lyon, who changed the name to "The Mahanoy Tribune." In 1880, E. S. Reinhold and I. Y. Sollenberger bought the paper, but this partnership lasted only six months when I. Y. Sollenberger became sole owner. In 1886 it was bought by L. V. Rausch and J. B. Irish and after a short time, Guy C. Irish was taken into the partnership.

In 1871 the "Mahanoy City Local" was established by Chas. Spencer. It was changed to the "Tri-Weekly Record," a small advertising sheet, Nov. 2, 1871. Mr. Spencer also started the "Mahanoy Valley Record," a small subscription paper, which he sold to John Parker, who in turn left it to his son John W. Parker. This paper changed to a tri-weekly in 1877 and was named "Parker's Tri-Weekly Record." About this time, T. J. Joyce was getting ready to start "The Daily American." Mr. Parker changed "The Tri-Weekly" to a Daily Record. M. T. O'Connor, T. C. O'Connor (Editor), and Harrison Ball, bought "The Daily Record" from John Parker. The name of this paper was later changed to "The Mahanoy City Record."

Thos. J. Joyce sold "The Daily American" to D. M. Graham and then later published, for a short time, "The Black Diamond." Dr. A. P. Seligman and H. F. Bushar became part owners of "The Daily American," about the year 1910 and the name of the paper was changed to "The Mahanoy American." A few years later this paper was sold to Frank J. and Austin T. Noonan. They sold it in 1917 to J. H. Kirchner, owner of "The Mahanoy Tribune." Mr. Kirchner published the

paper called "The American Tribune" until Sept. 1, 1919. "The American Tribune" merged with "The Mahanoy City Record" and the result was "The Record American" the present local newspaper.

The "Saule" (Sun) a semi-weekly Lithuanian paper is published by the W. D. Boczkowski Co. This paper was established in 1888 and is one of the oldest Lithuanian papers in the world.

Mahanoy City Banks

The following is a list of the Mahanoy City banks in order of their founding: First National Bank was established Sept. 26, 1864. The first officers were: Pres., Abraham Focht; Vice Pres., Geo. W. Dennis, and Cashier, W. L. Yoder.

The present officers are: Pres., C. Fred Beck; Vice Pres., Chas. S. Parmley; Cashier, James C. Dwyer, and Asst. Cashier, Richard Miles.

The Union National Bank was founded in March 1889. The first officers were: Pres., Andrew Comrey; Vice Pres., H. K. Smith, and Cashier, Eli S. Reinhold.

The present officers are: Pres., Geo. W. Barlow; Vice Pres., Jos. E. Ferguson, and Cashier, Jos. E. Ferguson.

The Merchants Bank was established April 1903. The first officers were: Pres., D. M. Graham; Vice Pres., Leon Eckert, and Treas., John Myers.

The present officers are: Pres., D. F. Guinan; Vice Pres., Leon Eckert; Vice Pres., Wm. R. Miller, and Treas., Walter I. Hinch.

This bank originally was situated on the southeast corner of Main and Centre Sts. and moved to Centre St., the present site in 1923.

The American Banking Trust Co.'s first and present officers are as follows: Pres., John Smith; Vice Pres., Joseph Wyatt; Asst. Vice Pres., A.

J. Farrell, and Cashiers, Augustine Smith and John D. Giffin.

Scout Troops

Troop Number 1 of the Boy Scouts was organized by Wm. Carl in June 1916 and consisted of a group of boys who spent their leisure time on North Main St. in the vicinity of the old Kaier Hotel. Mr Carl was, at that time, clerk at the hotel and Frank F. Reed, the proprietor.

The first meetings were held in the hotel and later in Edw. S. Silliman's garage. Mr. Oday then arranged for a meeting place in the basement of the high school and the meetings were held there for several years. As the attendance increased new rooms had to be opened and after being moved to several different places the troop was finally forced to vacate. For several months the meetings were held on the outside but later the troops were compelled to disband.

A Scout Band was organized consisting of 35 scouts, many of whom are now prominent musicians. During and after the war this band officiated at the funeral of the war veterans whose bodies were sent home for burial. In Mahanoy City they attended about eighteen funerals and several in Girardville and Ashland.

During the "Flu Epidemic" the troop was very active, at the Emergency Hospital first located in the Kaier Hotel, and later in the High School. A detail of the older scouts was on duty from early morning until late at night, doing all the errands and messenger service for which they were highly commended by the Army officers in charge. They were also available for the service throughout the entire town.

Under the direction of Wm. R. Bradley, a First Aid Squad, which became the best in the county, winning first place at all meets which were held annually in different towns of the county, was organized. It even surpassed several of the colliery squads which at that time were very active. One superintendent offered the squad work during the summer. Frank M. Crawshaw, Vladimir Smith, Chas. Kaier, Edward Wishing, Russell Green, Feger Reed and David Jenkins were the members of the squad.

During the World War the troop took part in all drives for Red Cross and other activities and was especially active in the sale of Liberty Bonds. For selling War Saving Stamps, they were awarded a badge made of metal taken from captured German cannons. The badge was awarded when a thousand dollars worth of stamps were sold and a palm attached to the badge for each additional \$500 worth. Most of the older scouts received these badges and several of them had numerous palms attached.

The troop was always at the top in all athletic events generally coming out first in the hundred yard dash, relay race, signaling and high jump.

A minstrel show was produced annually in the high school and most of the time had to give five performances to accommodate the patrons. The revenue derived from these shows amounted to about \$350 yearly. This money was used principally to pay the expenses of a fifteen day camp trip. The attendance at these camps averaged 83 scouts and officers.

Recently a drive for clothing and furniture was made throughout the United States by order of President Roosevelt, who is the Honorary President of the Boy Scouts of America. This material was to be turned over to the Salvation Army, Red

Cross and similar organizations to be distributed to the needy. The scouts of town, under the leadership of their scoutmasters, collected many truck loads which were distributed as directed. Rev. Lester B. Lutz was Chairman of the Committee in charge of this work.

The Troop disbanded in June 1922. For several years it had a membership of 85 scouts. During its existence the following served as officers: Committeemen: Chas. R. McCann, Dr. Jos. F. Noonan, Edw. S. Silliman, Ronald S. Reed, Clarence J. Williams and Milton E. Crawshaw; Scoutmasters: Wm. S. Carl and Wm. R. Bradley; Assistant Scoutmasters: Francis Whitaker, Phaon H. Snyder, Walter Dennis, John Reb, John Goepfert, Frank M. Crawshaw, Bart Wishing.

The other troops are as follows:

Troop Number 2: St. Paul's Reformed Church. It was organized July 1916 and disbanded about October 1918. The following served as scoutmasters: Norman Kleckner, Wm. E. Barr and Rev. Geo. M. Smith.

The Bethel Cong. Church Troop was organized in 1921 and disbanded in 1923. Rev. Jas. H. Henry was the scoutmaster. The troop was reorganized in 1927 and disbanded in 1929. Rev. Geo. M. Calloway was scoutmaster and Jas. Llewellyn, Asst. Scoutmaster.

The American Legion Troop Number 50, in existence two years, has Calvin Leiby as Scoutmaster and meets in the Grace Reformed Church.

Troop Number 51 has Rev. C. M. Baver, as Scoutmaster and Harold Evans and Clarence Diefenderfer, Assistant Scoutmasters, and meets in St. Paul's Reformed Church.

Troop Number 52 has Abe Northey, as Scoutmaster and John Link, Assistant Scoutmaster, and meets in St. John's English Lutheran Church.

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

Troop Number 50 has Rev. Lester B. Lutz, as Scoutmaster and Frank M. Crawshaw, Assistant Scoutmaster.

Troop Number 55, St. Mary's Greek Catholic Church, has George Denosky as Scoutmaster.

Christ Lutheran Church Troop with Rev. Walter K. Hauser in charge.

Mahanoy City Scout Council consists of Milton E. Crawshaw, Field Commissioner; Hiram Creasy, Pres.; Dwight G. McCann, Vice Pres.

Chairmen of Committees: Troop organization, Marvin Williams; Activities, Leon M. Brobst; Board of Review, Harry Rossbach; Training, Rev. C. M. Baver; Court of Honor, Dr. A. T. Liachowitz.

On April 26, 1934, a Court of Honor was held in the High School when the following awards were presented: Tenderfoot Scouts, 25; Second Class Scouts, 10; First Class Scouts, 4; Star Scouts, 4; Veteran Scouts, 2; Silver palm for eagle scout, 1.

Merit badges: Carpentry, 2; Firemanship, 3; Civics, 3; Woodwork, 2; First Aid, 3; Bookbinding, 5; Music, 7; Personal Health, 1; Pathfinding, 5; Leathercraft, 1.

The following gentlemen presented these awards: Dr. A. T. Liachowitz, H. A. Oday, D. G. McCann, C. Fred Beck, Hiram W. Creasy, Dr. Jos. F. Noonan, Dr. F. R. Wagner, Jos. E. Ferguson, Jas. H. Kirchner, Wm. H. Watson.

Frailey Township

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* February 18-20, 1935)

By pupils of the Frailey Township High School, under the direction of Miss Pearl Artz, teacher of English. Much information by Frank and Franklin English.

The first settler in the territory now embraced in Frailey Township was probably a colored man, known as Black Charley, who erected a log hut near the Good Spring Creek about two and a half miles west of the present town of Donaldson, where he lived a sort of hermit life. After the opening of mines in this section and the building of the railroad from Lorberrry Junction through Tremont to these mines in 1842 by the Swatara Railroad Company, operators and workmen settled in this section. Of the lessees or operators of the early mines, the firm of Colt, Gaskins and Lominson was among the first. For the accommodation of their workmen the firm built a stone boarding house. The house since the day of its completion has been known as the Franklin House; and for many years it was kept as a hotel by David Lominson.

Some of the earliest settlers were Jacob Crone, William Cabiner, Jacob Quinn, William Colt, Samuel Gaskins, David Lominson, Mahlon McCloughan, Adam Etien. It was necessary for these first settlers to go to Pinegrove, on foot, a distance of eight miles, to do their "shopping." Among the earlier marriages were those of David Lominson and Miss Caroline Youngman, Mahlon McCloughan and Miss Elizabeth Tobias, and Jacob Crone

and Miss Catharine Dinger. Wm. McCloughan, son of Mahlon and Elizabeth McCloughan, was the first child born in the township. Among other early births were James M. and John L. Gaskins, twin sons of Samuel and Elizabeth Gaskins.

In 1847 a number of coal mines were operated in this territory and a number of persons were living in the mining towns of the regions, among them Donaldson, Eckerts-ville, Strongville and Middle Creek. In that year application was made for the formation of a new township combining these settlements into one municipality. The request was granted and Frailey Township, named in honor of Associate Judge Charles Frailey, was formed from parts of Porter, Branch (now Reilly), Barry, and Lower Mahantongo (now Hegins) townships. The township has a length of six miles from east to west, and a width of three miles from north to south. It lies in the rich coal field of the southern anthracite region. Though one of the smallest townships of the county, Frailey Township has an assessed valuation of real estate (1934) of \$3,154,302.

Among other early coal operators in Frailey Township besides those mentioned above were Henry Heil, Garner, Clark and McCormick, Werntz and Strimpfler, Snyder and Bar, John and Rodger Horton, Jones

and Company, and Etien and Lom-inson. The Owen, Eckel and Colket colliery, situated north of the town of Donaldson, was opened in 1860 and closed in 1887. It passed into the hands of the Reading Company and reopened in 1922, and closed permanently February 20, 1928. To get the coal to the main railroad, a road was built from the Colket colliery, crossing the present state road and the present athletic field near the school house. Marcus G. and Percival Heilner leased the veins at Middle Creek about 1848, and erected a large breaker, but not being successful the colliery soon passed into other hands, and subsequently into the hands of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company. Very extensive improvements were started about 1874, but all operations were stopped after a few years. The town of Middle Creek has disappeared. In 1863 Jonathan Eckert and Company opened a colliery about two miles west of Donaldson. Around this colliery sprang up the town of Eckertsville, which for a time was a rival of Donaldson. The few houses remaining are known as West End. About 1855 Henry Heil leased and for many years worked the veins at Upper Rausch Creek. The coal, excellent in quality, was known as East Franklin coal. The East Franklin colliery at Strongville was operated for many years by the Philadelphia and Reading Company, and was later abandoned. The village of Strongville has disappeared.

Villages

As stated above, the village of Strongville, about two and one-half miles southwest of Donaldson, and Middle Creek, about two miles east of Donaldson, have disappear-

ed; and only a few houses remain at Eckertsville (West End). The residential section of Frailey Twp. is Donaldson. This village was named in honor of William Donaldson, who was the owner of the land when the original part of the town was built. As already stated the Franklin House was erected in 1842 and 1843. Other buildings soon appeared.

The first settlers, seeing that the mines promised to yield coal in large quantities, believed that here was a good place to locate a town. They prevailed upon Mr. Donaldson to survey and sell village lots which he did offering them at low figures and easy terms. The town grew rapidly, and soon had not only residential houses but large buildings for stores and taverns. To make machinery for the local mines, Adam Ferg and A. Allison, of Tremont, built the Ferg foundry at Donaldson in 1870. The foundry was located on the site of the present Fire Company house. A large dam to supply the foundry with water power was built on the site now occupied by the Lutheran Church. The foundry was operated successfully for a number of years when it was closed. After the closing of the foundry, Adam Ferg returned to Germany, where he died. His body was brought to this country by his son-in-law, Dr. Wm. Hain and burial was made in the Tremont Lutheran Cemetery.

Biblical Clock

In the early '70's, William F. Trautman, proprietor of the Donaldson Hotel, made a large mechanical Biblical clock, which showed in action many of the incidents of the Bible. This clock attracted considerable attention at the time,

Public Roads

Frailey Township has but few roads, but they afford easy outlet on all sides. The road from Donaldson over the Broad Mountain into the Hegins Valley was surveyed by Kimber Cleaver in 1845. It connects with Route 125 at Fountain. This road was lately improved as a state highway. About the same time the road leading eastward from Donaldson via Middle Creek and connecting with Route 209 at Newtown was made. The "state road" from Donaldson westward connecting with the old Reading and Sunbury road near Good Spring was built some time later. This is now an improved highway, part of Route 25 from Millersburg to Pinegrove through the Lykens and Hegins valleys via Hegins, Good Spring, Donaldson and Tremont.

Mail

The first mail received in Donaldson was brought on horseback from Pottsville by Walter Stevenson. In 1846 L. M. Gager drove the first mail-stage from Pottsville to Donaldson, via Minersville, Llewellyn, Tremont, establishing the mail route which is still in operation. Some of the first stage coach drivers on this route were: Wm. Heffner, Mr. Shambaugh, Mr. Carl, Jonathan Moller, Edward Williams, Mr. Herb, Jos. Betz, Edward Miller and John Herber. The post route westward from Donaldson to Gratz, via Fountain, Hegins, Valley View and Sacramento, was established in the 60's. In the earlier days the mail was carried on horseback. Michael Breckbill (then a boy of about fourteen years) was the rider. David Lominson was the first postmaster in Frailey Township.

The first physician in Donaldson was Dr. Cameron, a nephew of United States Senator Simon Cameron. Succeeding physicians of the town

were: Dr. Alfred Jones, Dr. John W. Donges, Dr. Joseph W. Bird, Dr. David Moyer and Dr. Hoffman. At present there is no resident physician in Frailey Township.

Education

The first school in the township was kept in a shanty in the vicinity of the Franklin House, and was taught by Moses R. Young, who afterwards became one of the associate judges of Franklin County. Two substantial school houses were built of stone in 1850; one in upper Donaldson, and one in lower Donaldson. They were two stories high and accommodated two schools each. Among the best known teachers of these schools were: D. H. Wilcox, A. J. Werntz, Josiah Lineaweaver, S. C. Kirk, J. L. Gaskin and J. D. Williams. Later three more school houses were built in the township at Strongville, Middle Creek and Eckertsville.

Among the regulations adopted by the school boards in those early days we find the following: No teacher shall be permitted to dance or play cards, one slate pencil shall be given to each pupil a month, water buckets shall be turned upside-down every evening after school. Many boys stopped school at the age of ten and went to work in the breakers.

In 1888 the central school building in Donaldson was erected, for the accommodation of all the pupils of town. Conrad, Deifenderfer and Knittle, of Port Carbon, were the builders. The members of the school board at the time were: A. P. Shofstall, Pres.; James Artz, Vice Pres., Timothy Cleary, Secy.; Henry Tobias, Treas.; Jacob Crone and Henry Schlottman. M. J. Fleming was elected the first principal. Wesley F. Crone, Ellen Fleming and Mima Shaw were the other teachers.

This building at the time of its construction was regarded as one of the most up-to-date school houses in the county. It is thus described by County Supt. G. W. Weiss in his report for 1890:

"Frailey Township erected a large brick building at Donaldson, containing six rooms, each about thirty feet square with fourteen feet ceiling. Each room is supplied with porcelain basin and running water. A coat room is connected with each room. A room about eight feet square, for use of directors is over the main entrance hall of the floor. Each of the school rooms has its own entrance. All the doors of the building open outwards. The building is fitted up with first-class steam heating apparatus. There are ventilating flues supplying all parts of the building with pure air. The inside of the building is wainscoted in natural wood. The windows are supplied with inside slat blinds and all the rooms are furnished with patent desks and slate surface. A tower surmounts the building."

The buildings in upper and in lower Donaldson were abandoned. The other schools of the township were continued. At present all pupils of the township are accommodated in this central building. Among the other teachers of the Township from 1880 to 1900 were: William A. Lominson, David Shope, John Coyne, David Etien, H. Day Geist, L. E. Etien, H. W. Smith, Ellen Fleming, Miss Ida D. Maurer, Robert Miller, E. W. Taylor, Miss Lizzie Opie.

To secure the sentiment of the citizens on the school situation and to devise plans for relieving the crowded condition in the central school building, at Donaldson, and advancing the standing of the schools, a public meeting was called the latter part of April, 1931. Over five hundred people of town were

present in the P. O. S. of A. Hall. Supervising Principal H. S. Bolan presented the situation, and a large majority of those present expressed their desire to take the necessary steps to build a new school house. The district being free of debt, and with an assessed valuation of over three million dollars, it seemed an easy matter financially to remodel the old building and build an addition to it, consisting of an auditorium, a gymnasium and additional class rooms, and thus bring the building and school up to date. The school board, consisting of Charles Samuel Miller, Lincoln O. English, Joseph Kimmel, S. M. Hatter and John Jones, realized that a majority of the people wanted the new building, that the children needed it, and that it could be paid at a very small cost to the property owners. The new building was completed and dedicated May 20, 1932. Supt. E. W. Taylor of the Ashland Schools, and a former principal of the local schools, gave the dedicatory address. The entire school system has been reorganized. Plays, recitals, debates, concerts, etc., are held in the auditorium; athletic contests, physical trainings, sports, etc., are staged in the gymnasium; the well stocked library furnishes material for study and research work. A commercial course has been added to the high school curriculum. The instrumental music for school and community activities is now supplied thru its band, orchestra, drum and bugle corps. A radio and public address system has been installed. The science department has a very fine chemistry and physics laboratory. During 1933 with the aid of Unemployment Relief, a reservoir, thirty-five feet by fifteen feet and eight feet deep was constructed on the mountain northeast of the school building to supply the school with running water.

Churches

In 1847 Jacob Crone brought Rev. Thos. A. Ferkley, a Methodist minister, stationed at Pinegrove, to Frailey Township to hold religious services. The first meetings were held in a warehouse in lower Donaldson. When the weather was favorable, outdoor services were held in the grove between Donaldson and Tremont. Seats and a pulpit in camp meeting style were improvised. The meetings in the woods drew large crowds from the surrounding towns. Later services were conducted in building. Rev. D. Cook, a Presbyterian minister, was a resident of the town for several years and preached to the people of that denomination. Preachers of other denominations often visited and held services in private and public houses, sometimes in the old warehouse. Many times when the preacher came, he shut up the barroom and carried the chairs into the dining room, turning that part of the hotel into a church. In 1887 the present Methodist Church at Donaldson was built, and on September 25 of that year, the building was dedicated by District Supt. Dr. Thomas B. Neely.

In 1848 the members of the German Reformed and the Lutheran denominations began building a church in upper Donaldson, but it was not finished until 1851. Rev. Rudolph Duenger was the first preacher of the Reformed, and Rev. E. S. Henry of the Lutheran, both preaching in the same building on alternate Sundays.

In 1874 the members of the Church of God erected a church building. Rev. Mr. Smith was the first pastor.

On Sunday, Sept. 25, 1904, the members of the Lutheran Church of the General Synod, met with Rev. Mr. Richter of Tremont, to discuss the advisability of erecting a church at Donaldson. The following were

present: Rev. J. A. Richter, Mr. and Mrs. Elias Long, Mr. and Mrs. Percival Wean, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Miller, Mrs. Cassie Long, John Shadle, Chas. Freeman and John Miller. A temporary organization was formed under the name Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. The following were the first officers: Rev. J. A. Richter, Pres.; Chas. J. Freeman, Secy.; and John Shadle, Treas. Elias Long and Chas. Miller were appointed to secure a place of worship. On Oct. 30, 1904, services were held in the Church of God building, where a permanent organization was made, and the following officers were chosen: John Miller and Bert Trefsgar, Elders; John Shadle, Chas. Miller and Jacob Myers, Deacons; and Wm. Betz, Elias Long and Chas. Freeman, Trustees. On Jan. 1, 1905, after a New Year morning service, definite plans were made to erect a place of worship. A lot was purchased from Edward Williams for \$100. With the purchase of the lot went all timber, brick and stone of the old abandoned Berg foundry. The building was dedicated December 17, 1907, with Rev. D. M. Moser, of Schuylkill Haven, delivering the sermon.

Fraternal Orders

On July 3, 1850, Donaldson Lodge, No. 382, I. O. O. F., was organized under a charter granted Oct. 1, 1849. Peter O. Bressler, Peter Greger, David Lominson, B. E. Reedy, Christian Nye, Samuel Gaskins, and Jacob Hassinger were the charter members. The meetings were held in the old school building in upper Donaldson.

The P. O. S. of A. built the large building in lower Donaldson as a meeting place for fraternal organizations and for social gatherings.

In 1926 the people of town built a fire house, and from personal contributions purchased a Seagrave Fire Engine.

In 1921 Lerbovitz and Sons established a shirt factory, which employs about 52 persons.

Military History

In 1849 the "Donaldson Rifle Company" was formed with Adam Etien as captain. The members of this company and many other men from Frailey Township enlisted and served in the Civil War. The following is a list: Samuel Gaskins, James N. Gaskins, Nathan Dinger, Peter Greiger, John Brennan, Thos. Wilson, Emanuel E. Reedy, Daniel Wehry, Benj. Wehry, Bertram Trefsgar, Anthony Trefsgar, Wm. C. Ward, Richard Fotheringill, John Lehman, Wm. Cooper, Alfred Jones, George Wilson, James Wilson, Edward Lawler, John Farrell, George Farrell, Patrick Fogerty, James Fogerty, Owen Brennan, Martin Kelly, Philip Manley, John Manley, John Donley, Michael Cleary, John Cleary, Wm. Angus, Patrick Quinn, John McIlhenny, Wm. Madden, Elijah Horn, Chas. Burk, Henry Achternacht, Alexander Thompson, Edward Purcell, Wm. Ryan, Thos. Harritt, John Lawler, Jos. Kenady, John House, Chas. Taylor, John Coffield, Thos. Wood, Patrick Fell, Bony Fell, Jas.

C. Wilson, John J. Tobias, Lewis Hummel, Calvin Wright, Wm. Smith, Thos. Angus, Jas. Warr, Jos. Warr, Thomas Grant, James F. Dent, Jonathan Stutzman, Evans Kimmel, Henry Graver, William Bowden, Samuel Whetstone, Joseph Hendrickson, George Dull, A. P. Schoffstall, Thomas McHenry, John Gaskins, T. J. Tobias, William English, John Athey, Daniel Morgan.

World War

List of men of Frailey Township who served in the World War: Clifford Athey, James Artz, Roy Barr, Chas. Barr, Jos. Kimmel, Rupert Hatter, Ray Morgan, Harry W. Morgan, Lewis Ney, Chester Evans, John Gehres, Clark Horn, Bruce Schwalm, Wm. Wetzel, Chas. S. Miller, Frank Morgan, Earl Ney, Jas. Sims, Chas. Wetzel.

Robert Artz, dead; Eugene Bixler, Rubard Barr, Lee Dinger, John Kimmel, dead; Thos. Lawlor, Harry A. Morgan, gassed; Henry Miller, Paul Etien, Edward Fleming, Harvey Hepler, gassed; Wm. Jones, Henry Tobias, Earl Morgan, Herbert Lyle Miller, gassed; Wm. Murphy, Harvey Pearson, Jas. Tobin, Chester Wetzel.

History of the Mahantongo Valley

ELDRED AND MAHANTONGO TOWNSHIPS

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* February 21-26, 1935)

Eldred Township was formerly a part of Upper Mahantongo Township, one of the original nine townships to constitute the new County of Schuylkill, formed by act of the legislature March 18, 1811. The northern boundary of the township is Northumberland County, and since the line that separates Northumberland and Schuylkill Counties crosses the Line Mountain, part of Eldred Township lies north of this mountain, in the Mahanoy Valley. The greater part of Eldred, however, lies in the beautiful Mahantongo Valley, and is drained by the Mahantongo Creek. The township was formed in 1848, and is named in honor of President Judge Eldred of the Circuit Court. Its southern boundary is the Mahantongo Mountain. With the exception of the small section in the Mahanoy Valley, the township is a strictly agricultural township. There is no coal in the Mahantongo and the Line Mountains.

The first recorded deed for land in Eldred Township is that of Francis Yarnell, dated Aug. 26, 1773. On April 8, 1795, Casper Hepler and his oldest son John, of Northampton County, Pennsylvania, bought from Isaac Yarnell a tract of land in Mahantongo Twp., Berks County, (now Schuylkill) called the Plymouth tract, for 335 pounds, 4 shillings, 4 pence, and soon thereafter the Hepler homestead, one of the first in what is now Eldred Twp., was built. Under date of April 24, 1798, the Commonwealth issued a patent to

John Hepler for 486 acres in the Mahantongo Valley, and on the same date a patent was issued for another tract, bordering on the tract of the Hepler, to Jesse Yarnell. Casper Hepler and his wife, Maria, acquired large tracts of these lands from the original grantees by deed dated July 26, 1799, and took possession of same. Many of the former grantees acquired the land for speculative purposes. In all Casper Hepler acquired title to more than one thousand acres of land. As the children married more land was acquired, and new homes were established. On these lands the numerous descendants of Casper Hepler settled, and most of the farm land in the eastern end of the Mahantongo Valley is owned today by his descendants.

Other pioneer settlers came to the Valley from Upper Milford, Macungie and Whitehall Twps., Northampton, now Lehigh County, and married into the Hepler family. Among them were George Reinhart, Peter Mattern, John Kehler, George Yoder, Gideon Williamson, Peter Klock, George Kehler, Jacob K. Boyer, and Peter Wetzell. Nearly all of these families and many others settled in the Mahantongo Valley before 1808, and were of the second generation of the German Palatinates in America, whose fathers had fought in the American Revolution. Casper Hepler is probably the only Revolutionary soldier buried in Eldred Twp. George Reinhart, Jacob Reinhart and Jacob Maurer, other

men that served in the Revolution, lived in Eldred Twp., but are buried in Howarter's Cemetery, Northumberland County.

The first church in the Mahantongo Valley was built on the Hepler farm and was named the Zion Church. Nearby was the cemetery ("Gottes ocker," God's acre), and Benjamin Hepler, aged 11, was the first person buried in the long row of Hepler graves. In this row are buried Casper Hepler, who died in 1816, his wife, two daughters, five of the seven sons, five daughters-in-law, one son-in-law, and others, a total of 23.

Story of Early Settlers

The following story of one of the first settlers in the Mahantongo Valley was related by Mrs. David Y. Haas, who was a direct descendant of Mr. and Mrs. George Reiner (Reinart), and who died Jan. 11, 1934, at the age of 94 years, five months, and three days.

"The first settlers in Eldred Twp. were Mr. and Mrs. George Reiner. They came from Lehigh County with all their belongings on a wagon drawn by two oxen. Mr. Reiner and his wife walked all the way, following Indian trails and driving over brush. They passed no settlement on the way. When they came into the Valley it was covered with low growth of oak, with here and there a large pine tree. Along the streams and other low places were some large trees. They were looking for a place to make their home. Tired, they sat down to rest by the first spring they found. While the oxen were eating grass, Mr. Reiner went in search of a suitable place to build a hut. When he came back his wife had grubbed up the underbrush and cleared around the spring. They decided to build a hut right there. So the first settlement, a log house, was built close to the

spring on the farm now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Engle. The place was formerly Leib post office, and the home of Andrew Geist, Wm. H. C. Geist, and Preston Troutman.

"Mrs. Reiner was a strong, healthy and courageous woman. She helped to cut down trees and prepare them for building the log hut.

"After they had their log house almost finished, a forest fire broke out. While fighting to save the building, part of their household belongings were burned.

"Mrs. Reiner started in search of a neighbor. She walked until she found the Broschius family, below Green Brier, Northumberland Co., a distance of nine or ten miles. These were the nearest neighbors. On her way back she lost her way, and when she did not return for so long a time, Mr. Reiner thought something must have happened to her, when he saw her coming, carrying a large bundle of straw to make a new bed. The old one was burned.

"They had a large family. Mrs. Reiner lived to be 97 years old, and she and her husband are both buried in the Howarter's Church Cemetery, in graves unmarked.

"These early settlers did their farm work with oxen. They cut their grain with the sickle and thrashed it with the flail. In the early forties they started to cut the grain with the grain cradle. The neighbors came together and cut each others' grain. In that way community life started.

"The family of George Boyer, who came from Philadelphia was the first English speaking family in Eldred Township. Mr. Boyer was a member of the General Assembly of the State Legislature. While in office he introduced the bill to have the county seat removed from Orwigsburg to Pottsville."

Roads

The earliest road was what was then called a "State Road", from Klingerstown, through the Valley and over the Mahantongo Mountain at the eastern part of the township. At Klingerstown the road connected with the famous Tulpehocken trail and at its eastern terminus it joined the Reading-Sunbury turnpike near Taylorsville. Most of the present roads of the Valley and the two roads over the Line Mountain into the Mahanoy Valley and the one over the Mahantongo Mountain into the Hegins Valley are improved highways.

Education

This information of the early schools is from the pen of Mrs. Oscar A. Troutman, daughter of Mrs. David Y. Haas.

"The first schoolhouse in the Mahantongo Valley was a log building on the Hepler farm, and stood between the present farms of W. E. Hepler and Chas. Schultz. The early teachers were a Mr. Bressler and Jonas Kayson. Reading and writing in German were taught, and arithmetic to some of the boys. Mother Haas said that when she attended this school only one girl studied arithmetic, Polly Baum, and she was going to marry Mr. Wiest, a storekeeper at Klingerstown, and, therefore, needed to know numbers. The teacher received very little pay for his services. He boarded around, generally at the homes of the parents of the children that could not pay.

"Another early schoolhouse in the Mahantongo Valley was located near the present home of Harry J. Snyder. This place was settled by Mr. and Mrs. George Yoder, probably as early as 1800. This school was taught by John Henry Krebs. Religious services were held in this schoolhouse before there was a church building. The first singing

school was also held in this place by Mr. Adams. He received fifty cents for thirteen lessons. Lewis Stark was an itinerant teacher, going from house to house to give lessons in reading and writing to those that had too far to go to school."

The public school system was accepted by the people soon after the formation of the township, and it has maintained an efficient system of elementary one-room schools. There are six schools in the Mahantongo Valley of the township and three in the Mahanoy Valley section. The present teachers are: Helen E. Shappell, D. A. Geist, Mrs. Hannah S. Hepler, Margaret Reese, A. Mae Harris, Verna Miller, Sara N. Murray, Mira A. Jones, and A. M. Warmkessel. The board of directors are: Clarence W. Herring, Pres.; Fred W. Fertig, Secy.; Allen M. Snyder, Treas.; Lloyd S. Herb and Chas. E. Specht. After completing the elementary grades, the pupils attend the Hegins Township, the Leck Hill, and the Ashland High Schools as non-resident pupils.

CHURCHES

Howarter's Lutheran and Reformed

The early settlers were members of the Lutheran and of the Reformed Churches. The oldest church in the eastern part of the Mahantongo Valley was built in 1807, and is known as the Howarter's Lutheran and Reformed Church. Jacob Beissel, John Diehl, Peter Kloch and Adam Howarter were the building committee. Some time later some of the members withdrew and organized a separate congregation and built a church at Leib. This is now the Union Evangelical Church.

A new building replaced the old Howarter Church in 1893. Instead of the two-story structure, the new building consists of three rooms, auditorium, Sunday School annex

and ante room. The building committee was Jacob Masser, Amos Howarter and Geo. W. Paul.

In the beautiful cemetery belonging to the church are buried many of the pioneer settlers of the Valley.

Rev. Christopher Neuman was the first Lutheran minister to live in the Mahantongo Valley. He was married to Dinah Broscius, daughter of Nicholas Broscius, of Green Brier, mentioned above as being the nearest neighbor to Mr. Reiner. Rev. and Mrs. Neuman, four daughters, one son, and an adopted son by the name of Jesse Miller started "to go out west." They were told that the Indians were on the war-path, but Rev. Neuman, as a missionary was not afraid of the Indians. Later word was received that the Neuman family was massacred and scalped by the Indians, and that the bodies of all but one little girl were found buried in the sand on the banks of the Wabash River.

Evangelical Church

Itinerant preachers of the Evangelical Church went among the frontier settlements of Central Pennsylvania in the early part of the nineteenth century, and held meetings at homes, in barns, and in the open air, and in many places organized congregations. In 1826, Rev. John Sybett, who became the first bishop of the Evangelical Association, came into the Mahantongo and the Deep Creek Valleys to start a revival of religion. Everywhere he preached "righteousness and judgment to come," and very emphatically denounced profanity and drunkenness. Success attended his ministry. In the Mahantongo Valley a distillery was converted into a school house and meeting house for preaching services. His success, however, was not without

persecution and intense hatred for the man, and opposition to his work. A certain desperate character in the valley resolved to shoot Sybert the next time he would cross the Mahantongo Mountain. Having been informed when Sybert would cross the mountain, he ambushed himself and waited from morning to night to carry out his threats. By some premonition, Sybert started an hour earlier than he had intended to cross the mountain, and thus foiled the intended assassin. Before Sybert again entered the Mahantongo Valley, the ruffian had died.

It was during these itinerancies of Sybert that Evangelical congregations were organized and churches built.

Church of God

The Church of God in Eldred Township was organized in 1847 with eight members: Isaac Haas and wife, John Hepler and wife, Geo. Hepler and wife, Wm. Klinger and Mr. Traub. Elder Snavelly was the first preacher of the denomination to hold services in the valley. Services were held at the homes of the members until 1855, when the first building was erected on the land deeded for church purposes by Geo. Hepler, and dedicated by Rev. Winebrenner and Rev. Keller. The Third German Eldership in 1856, the Tenth German Eldership in 1863, and the Seventeenth German Eldership were held in this church. The first trustees were John Smith, Daniel R. Snyder and Daniel M. Snyder. The following are some of the pastors: Petry, Hackenberger, Sowers, Hepler, Berkheiser, Herman Snyder, Meixel, Smith Kenler, Hap, Dressler, Myers Weindenhamer, Sollenberger, Stouffer, Wenger, Shindle, Collins, Lehman, Rhine, Sheets, Demy, Lingle, and the present pastor, Rev. C. F. Helwig.

Present officers of the church are: F. D. Hepler, John H. Snyder and Norman Snyder, elders; E. W. Broscius, Chas. Broscius, Chas. Knerr, and Geo. Hornberger, deacons; and E. W. Broscius, J. M. Knerr and John H. Snyder, trustees.

The church at Pitman was built in 1875.

PITMAN

Pitman, formerly known as Zimmermanstown, after an early settler, is a small village in Eldred Township. It has about fifteen dwelling houses, a schoolhouse, a church, a P. O. S. of A., and an I. O. O. F. hall, two stores, two green houses, a hotel, a garage. It lies in the rich farming region.

HELFENSTEIN

Helfenstein is in the Mahanoy Valley section of Eldred Township, and is a mining town. It was named in honor of Judge Wm. L. Helfenstein of Pottsville, who owned a tract of coal land in the vicinity in 1868. Coal was mined on this tract for some time but operations have been suspended. The village has several hotels and stores, a church, a two-room school house, several garages, and about twenty dwelling houses.

ELDRED

Early Mechanics and Industries

John Haas, a carpenter and millwright, came from Oley, Berks Co. He built many of the first saw mills, grist mills and water wheels in the new settlement. After his death, in 1848, his sons, David Y. and Samuel Y., continued the father's business, and added other lines of work. The Haas's foundry, near Hepler, was for many years the machine shop where anything the people needed was

made or repaired. Grain cradles, plows, plow shares, steam engines and latest style saw mills were made. The first bicycle in the county, if not in the state, was made in this shop by William Snyder in 1873. The first automobile built in the county is still on exhibition in the now abandoned machine shop.

Samuel Y. Haas, the younger of the two brothers, whose death occurred in 1876, at the age of 39 years, was an inventive genius. From the "Shamokin Times" of April first, 1876, which gives an account of his death, we make the following abstract. "Samuel Y. Haas had been in delicate health from childhood. During his boyhood days he received three days' schooling—all that he ever had. At an early age he showed evidences of remarkable inventive genius and mechanical skill. He was a watchmaker, machinist, painter, carpenter, iron and brass worker, moulder, and "could", as people said, "do everything and yet never learned any trade." He taught and composed music. In his fourteenth year he made a "French piano", as he called it—an upright music box which played eight tunes. At eighteen he made a diminutive stationary steam engine, perfect in every detail and well finished. He also made a small rotary engine, which, when the steam was turned on, worked so easily and started with such velocity that it was badly damaged. He was a watchmaker and could construct a watch throughout, and yet he never took any instruction in the business. He concluded that it was all foolishness to wind a watch every day, so he made one that would run eight days with one winding. He was always inventing, but as soon as he completed one model, he began at something else. A machine for boring and finishing fence posts, an invention to start wagons easily, and a score of other

inventions are to his credit. There seems to have been no limit to his ingenuity and skill."

Later the sons of David Haas, Webster and Jackson, made quite a success as inventors.

Jesse F. Geist had the first tannery in Eldred Township. The site of the tannery was on the farm of Wm. Wetzel. Here the raw hides of the steers and calves were converted into leather. Happy the youngster that could wear calf-leather boots! George Kehler and Philip Haas also erected a tannery.

The wool from the farmers' sheep was taken to the "wool mill" of John Maurer on the road between Pitman and Leck Hill. The wool, after being cleaned and carded, would be taken home to be spun and then woven into cloth or knitted into stockings by the members of the family. Mr. Maurer and his successor, Wm. Atkins, also manufactured different kinds of woolen cloth, blankets, etc. The property on which the mill was located is now owned by Lynn Atkins.

There were several distilleries in the Valley, where the surplus rye was converted into whiskey. Ten bushels of grain made one barrel of whiskey. There were several oil mills where linseed oil was made from flax seed.

The hats worn by the men, including the silk hats of the pre-Civil War period, were manufactured by Samuel Ressler; and the women's hats and bonnets were made by Mrs. Peter Kutz. Mrs. Kutz not only made the hats but she remade them over and over as the styles and fashions changed.

They had no stoves in those pioneer days. The open fire place served for both heating and cooking purposes. They raised flax, wove

cloth and spun their own thread. They did the spinning by the light of the fire place, and later by candle light. They ate rye bread and buckwheat cakes. The food was cooked, not fried. They made their own lye by leaching wood ashes. First they placed clean long straw in the bottom of a large home made tub. Next they placed split wood on top of the straw, then they pressed hickory ashes over that and poured boiling water over it. The lye water drained out through a pipe in the bottom of the tub. This lye was used for washing and making soap. They also made their own saleratus, or soda, by boiling this lye water until it became thick paste. The paste was then roasted until it could be ground into a white powder. This was used in making cakes. They made their own dye out of hickory, sumac, oak and walnut bark. Walnut hulls and onion shells were used to color Easter eggs. The clothes for the men and boys were made by mother and older girls from homespun woolen and linen cloth.

The tar used to grease the wagons was made by placing split pine wood upright in a pit along the side of a hill. The pit was partly covered. The wood was then lighted from the top and as it slowly burned the tar was drained off from the bottom through a pipe.

Every Home Had Its Butcher

There was always a goodly supply of venison. This meat was cured by putting it in brine for six weeks, and then smoking. As for other meat, every family had its own "butchering" — dried beef, ham, shoulder, spare ribs, smoked sausage, summer sausage, and chicken.

Wages received by servant girls were fifty cents a week, or thirteen cents a day.

Money was scarce and they needed very little. When they needed anything from the store, such as sugar and coffee, they would dispatch the children to the store with a basket of butter, eggs, home made soap, dried fruit, currants, or whatever they had, and have them exchanged for what the house-wife needed. As for teas, a great variety was grown in every garden, and they were the regular household remedies for every known sickness and ailments. The doctor was seldom called. Among the first doctors were Dr. Schwinkey and Dr. Kaldeback. Dr. Herb and Dr. Karterman came at a later date.

Colonel George Shroeder

One of the most eccentric characters of the Mahantongo Valley was Col. George Shroeder. He was born Nov. 8, 1816, at the place now owned by Jerry Rupp. He carried the honorary title of "Colonel", and drilled the boys of the Valley in preparation for the Civil War. He was resolute, high spirited, eccentric, honest, and very patriotic. He habitually whistled patriotic airs. After the Civil War he lived alone in a small cabin at Shroeder's hill, a steep precipice covered with large spruce trees, at the foot of which winds the Little Mahanoy Creek. At this place he tanned hides by a quick process. In his large garden he planted tulips, hyacinths, narcissi and daffodils. These flowers multiplied and spread over a large area. The place is often visited by flower lovers.

He laid out the town of Franklin Square, and at the cross-roads of this town he dug for gold to a depth of 90 feet. He found no gold, but the eight foot hole in the earth became a well of never failing water, which is used by the entire neighborhood during dry seasons.

The Mahantongo Valley lies in three counties, Schuylkill, Northumberland and Dauphin. Often

part of a farm lies in Schuylkill and part in Northumberland; in several instances, a man's house is in one county, and his barn in the other, or even the house partly in each county. "They put the bread into the oven in one county, and take it out in the other," used to be a common remark of the old people. These unnatural political boundary lines have been a drawback to the development of this rich agricultural section of the state, especially in matters of public education.

Line Mountain, in the colonial days, was the boundary between the white settlers and the Indians, and often trade was carried on between them—the Indians exchanging furs for produce of the white settlers on the south side of the mountain. As stated above, no coal or other minerals have been found in the part of the valley in Schuylkill County. Rich deposits of limestone are found in Northumberland County, a few miles northwest of Klingerstown

UPPER MAHANTONGO TWP.

After the formation of Eldred Township, the remaining part of the original Upper Mahantongo Township kept the old name, but it is now generally known as Mahantongo Township. Mahantongo is an Indian name, and means "the place where we had plenty of venison to eat." They may not have venison today, but any one that has sat down to the table of the thrifty Pennsylvania German housewife of today will say, "they have plenty to eat in Mahantongo." We have no definite record of who the first settlers in the western part of Mahantongo Township were. They, no doubt, came from beyond the Blue Mountains, through the Klingerstown Gap, or up the Mahantongo Creek from the Susquehanna. The low land at the Junction of the

Pine and Mahantongo Creeks was a favorite spot of the Indians; if not an Indian village, then at least a noted camping place. The maps of the Scull's of 1750 have this place noted. It is known as Spread Eagle. In the dim and distant past colonial days, an Indian carved the figure of a spread eagle on a giant sycamore tree that has stood on the banks of the Pine Creek, almost in the center of the present village of Klingerstown, fronting the present homes of Wm. and Harry Romberger. The tree was a landmark for the entire region, even in colonial times, for it is noted by the traveling missionaries as early as 1745 on their trips to Shamokin (Sunbury) over the Tulpehocken Trail, which passed through the Gap. Rev. David Zeisberger, Bishop Spangenberg, Rev. Frederick Conrad Muhlenberg and Conrad Weiser were among the men who hallowed this spot by their presence. Descendants of Conrad Weiser are buried at Hebe, a few miles west of Klingerstown. Bishop Spangenberg, speaking of this region, says, "Here we found encamped the family of an Indian, who on learning from whence we came, and realizing that we must be hungry, said to his wife, 'Give them some spits full of venison'." In return for this kindness, Brother Spangenberg gave them knives and thimbles.

The Tulpehocken Trail, passing through Klingerstown Gap, was one of the earliest roads of Pennsylvania into the interior of the state. It was sometimes called the King's Highway. Referring again to the Spread Eagle symbol, it may have commemorated some feat of an Indian runner, or marked some tribal boundary, or it may have been the emblem of some Indian tribe. The "spread eagle" sycamore tree was blown down during a

severe storm in the early 70's. The name remained for some time as the name of the hotel, "Spread Eagle Tavern," and as the business trademark of the Wiest family. Old documents sometimes speak of "at the banks of the Spread Eagle," and the Daughters of America Lodge is known as the "Spread Eagle Council."

Alexander Klinger and his four sons bought land and settled in the vicinity of Klingerstown in 1780, and John Klinger, no doubt, gave the place its present name in 1807, when he laid out lots and sold them, but it was originally called Waynetown, no doubt named for General Anthony Wayne, of Revolutionary fame, and later Elizabethtown. So the extreme western corner of Schuylkill County was known as Spread Eagle, Waynetown, Elizabethtown, but it is now Klingerstown, to all intent and purpose, but no Klinger originally settled it. Jacob Baum, Robert Clark, Solomon Shuman, Andrew Osman, Peter Klock, Mr. Heim, John Reed, Jacob Weist, George Maurer, Jacob Stenner and Mr. Renninger were among the early settlers of the township.

That both of the original Mahantongo Townships had a large population in the pre-Civil War period is indicated by the remark that was often made when the election returns were coming to the County Seat: "Wait till you hear from the Mahantongoes."

One of the leading business men of Klingerstown in the pioneer days was "old" John Wiest. He used to hitch four horses to a covered wagon, loaded with dried apples (snitz) dried cherries, eggs, butter and other products of the farmers, and take them to Phila. in exchange for merchandise for his store. The round trip would take a week. The store remained in the hands of the Weists until a few years ago.

Mail

The mail in the early days was brought into the region once a week from Reading. Later postoffices were established at Leib, Haas and Pitman in the eastern end of the valley, and Hepler and "Rough and Ready" in the central part. Rough and Ready postoffice was established in 1850, and named in honor of President Zachary Taylor, who was affectionately called Rough and Ready. Postal Star Routes were opened which brought the mail three times a week. Today, Star Routes bring mail daily via Ashland to Pitman, and via Herndon and Sacramento to Klingerstown. From these points, the mail is delivered by Rural Delivery.

Education

The people of Upper Mahantongo Township were not opposed to education but they were not in favor of state control of schools, as they regarded the public free schools to be. This conservatism of the people made Upper Mahantongo one of the two last townships of the county and one of the last in the state to accept the provisions of the free school act, and not until 1865 were the educational interests of the township placed under its operations. Five school buildings were erected, some of them at almost inaccessible places. After seventy years, with the exception of one, the schools are still one-room ungraded schools. The pupils of high school grades are transported to the Hubley and the Hegin township high schools. Shut in by mountains as the Mahantongo Valley is, it should have a school of secondary education. But being located in three counties and five townships of those counties, it makes the establishment and management of such a school difficult. None of the districts is rich enough

to act independently and receive the pupils of the other districts as non-resident pupils.

The present teachers (1934-1935) are: H. F. Diehl, Mrs. Hollie Hoffman, Erma M. Reiner, Verna I. Brooks, Walter H. Davis, and Helen S. Romberger. The board of directors are: D. A. Maurer, president; C. D. Maurer, secretary; Harry Haas, treasurer; Nath. Wiest and Irvin Deibert.

Organizations

A Camp of the P. O. S. of A. was organized at Hepler in 1884. Some of the charter members now living are D. P. Maurer, Geo. M. Stiely and Dr. W. D. Karterman. The organization disbanded in 1890.

A. B. Karterman Council of the Jr. O. U. A. M. was organized Dec. 2, 1931, with over 100 charter members. The Daughters of America, a sister order of the Junior Mechanics was organized, a few months later with 42 members. Both of these organizations meet at Hepler.

One of the famous musical organizations of the early 50's was the Independent Cornet Band. The band was organized in 1850 near Line Mountain Post Office, Northumberland Co., in the building now occupied by Charles Snyder. The members signed a contract for three years. During 1865 the meeting place was changed to Hepler, Schuylkill County. Among the members were D. K. Hepler, Andrew Hepler, Samuel Haas, John Wolfgang, Aaron Snyder, James Maurer, William Snyder and D. P. Maurer. Irvin Boyer had charge of the transportation, and high "band wagon," drawn by four gaily decorated horses, was an imposing sight at the "celebrations" and "Badolyas," and other social gatherings that engaged the services of the band. Geo. Dush, of Ashland, was the first teacher. Later Noah

Hower and "Al" Hepler were the "band masters." When the "Independent" disbanded in 1900, some of the younger members organized the Rough and Ready Band, which served the public for twenty-two years.

In the western part of Mahantongo township the oldest fraternal society is the I. O. O. F., organized May 21, 1868. A Camp of the P. O. S. of A. was organized April 1, 1904. Lodges of the Jr. O. U. A. M., and the Daughters of America were organized in 1930. All of these have their meetings at Klingerstown.

Churches

The people of Klingerstown and vicinity were and many still are members of the Klingers Lutheran and Reformed Church at Erdmans, in Dauphin county. In 1894, some of the members organized the St. Michael's Lutheran and Reformed Congregations and built a church at Klingerstown.

Salem Lutheran and Reformed Church at Rough and Ready was built in 1833. The present pastors of both St. Michael's and Salem churches are Rev. James E. Beam, Reformed, and Rev. D. E. Fetterolf, Lutheran.

Barry Township Fine Farming Country

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* February 27-March 1, 1935)

Barry was the first new township formed in the county, out of the nine townships of the original Schuylkill County, but the present Barry Township is only a small part of the original territory organized under that name in 1821. It was formed from parts of Norwegian and Schuylkill Townships. A large part of what are now Butler and Foster Townships was included in the original Barry Township. The extreme northern part of the township is drained by the Mahanoy Creek, but the greater part lies in the Deep Creek Valley.

The early settlers in this region came along the old Reading-Sunbury road. The Yarnall family settled in the vicinity of Taylorsville, and opened the first store and hotel in the township. In 1815, Chas. Marwine arrived from Phila., and John Clantz, John Heter and the Shepert family came from Berks County.

Into the region of central and western Barry, at an early date, came the Greens, the Maurers, the Bolichs, the Billmans, the Yoders, the Snyders the Heters, the Kessler, the Klingers, the Hochs, the Carls, the Shueys and the Kimmels. The entire region was covered with dense forest, and the early industry was lumbering. Geo. Kessler built the first saw-mill in 1815; other mills along Deep Creek and Mahanoy Creek were erected by Jos. Porter, Isaac Reed, Michael Bolig, Chas. Cockel, Henry Bolig, C. M. Billman.

Jos. Reed, of Phila., acquired title to nine separate tracts or parcels of

land lying and being over the Board Mountain on the waters of the Deep Run, surveyed in pursuance of warrants severally dated, June 13, 1774, and bounded by lands of Ennon Williams, Wm. Roberts, John Wharton, John Evans, Chas. Moore and others. These different original warrants contained from 114 to 309 acres each, and were known by the rather significant names of Richland, Dover, Clearfield, Greenwich, Hopewell, Plainfield, Hampfield, Newton and Union. The combined area of the nine tracts was about 3000 acres, and extended from the top of the Mahantongo Mountain on the north, across the Deep Creek Valley to the top of the Little Mountain on the south. The grants comprised the greater part of western Barry Township, and the Kessler's district of Hegins Township.

On Nov. 5, 1812, Mr. Reed sold all of these tracts to John S. Heister, of Reading, Pa., for \$9,512. The administrators of Mr. Heister sold these lands to settlers, among whom were Henry Boyer, Wm. Klinger, Michael Wolfgang, John Gheris, Wm. Hoch, Geo. Erdman, John Moreland, Joshua Enty and Philip Lucas.

John Kimmel, Jacob Klinger, Daniel Klinger, David Klinger, Geo. Kessler, Chas. Marwine, John A. Otto, Benj. Snyder, Jonathan Yarnall, John Yarnall, Chas. Ziegenfus were large land owners and lumbermen. Much of the lumber was hauled to Port Carbon, and shipped by canal boat to Reading and Phila.

A grist-mill was erected by Isaac Reid in 1810. Other mills were owned by C. M. Billman. Daniel Klinger, Israel Reed, Jacob Auman and Daniel Klinger.

After the land was cleared, farming and dairying became and now are the principal industries of the people. The opening of a foundry by John A. Otto in 1845 on the Mahanoy Creek was an event of considerable importance, for it was looked upon as the beginning of a new industry; but 20 years later the plant was sold to John R. Fisher, who carried on the manufacture of coffee mills until 1869, when the plant was destroyed by fire.

The Yarnall family appears frequently in the early history of Schuylkill County, and, since descendants of this family are still living in Barry Township, we give the following abstract from the records of the Schuylkill County Historical Society:

"Francis Yarnall, of Worcester-shire, England, was one of the early settlers of Pennsylvania, having come to Chester County in 1683. His grandson, Francis, was born July 27, 1719. In 1740 he came to Berks County. He was a fair scholar and a practical surveyor. In 1741 he married Mary Lincoln, a daughter of Mordecai Lincoln, who was the grandfather of President Lincoln. In 1750 he took up a tract of land in Manheim Township, upon which he put up a mill, which became noted as the starting point of several surveys for the provincial roads. In 1759 he was chosen by Benj. Lightfoot as his trusted assistant in making the first survey for the road to Fort Anquata, (Sunbury). In 1766 he took up a large tract of land, upon which a part of Port Carbon was after-

ward built. The improvements which he and his cousin, Jos., made in this tract were destroyed by the Indians.

"In the early part of 1770, a commission was appointed to lay out a road to Fort Anquata, which up to this time was without a connecting road to Reading and Phila. Francis Yarnall was placed in charge of this survey. While in this survey, he noted some fine farming land in the vicinity of Taylorsville, now Barry Township, and was so well impressed with it that a few months afterwards he took up a large tract there, and with his family, moved on it and cleared the land. As the "great road" ran through his farm, the site for an inn was very good, for this open road to Fort Anquata was traveled by a large number of people bound for the land of the 'New Purchase.' Here Francis Yarnall and his wife ended their days, and their remains lie in the cemetery near Hesse's along the side of the highway, which he had so well planned."

The Yarnalls opened the first tavern in the township in 1810, and the first store in 1820.

Huntersville (Mowry P. O.) Taylorsville, Mabel and Weishample are villages in the township. The first house at Mowry was built for John K. Maurer at the Reading-Sunbury highway, by Solomon Boyer, in 1850. Later, Mr. Boyer became a prominent lawyer of Northumberland County. The house was used as a hotel, and is now occupied by C. B. Maurer. Frank Dangler was the first postmaster at Taylorsville. Weishample was named for Rev. J. F. Weishample, a minister of the Church of God denomination, when a church was built at the place in 1855. Mabel

Mabel postoffice established 1869, with Isaac F. Betz as the postmaster. For many years the mail arrived once a week. The store at Mabel was known as Betz's, and the hotel as Reiner's. Both did a good business for many years. Commercial fish dams on the hotel property were destroyed at the time of the Johnstown flood. Daily rural delivery from Ashland and from Hegins has taken the place of the local post offices. Mail is still received at Mowry. Rural delivery went into effect Dec. 1, 1905.

CHURCHES

Kimmel's Lutheran and Reformed Church

The first religious services were held in the log school house, erected in 1816. The first preacher to hold services there was Rev. Geo. Eyster, a Lutheran minister, who organized a congregation composed of the following members: Peter Ziegenfus, Jacob Ziegenfus, Peter Zerbey, John Kimmel, Chas. Marwine, Geo. Kessler, John Dietrich, Geo. St. Clair, Michael Bolich, Henry Bolich, John Yarnall, Jesse Yarnall, Gideon Market and Michael Ma-deary.

Pastor Eyster ministered to the congregation for 10 years, and was succeeded by Rev. Isaac Stiely, of the Reformed Church, in 1827. Rev. Mr. Stiely served for 15 years. During the last five years of his pastorate, he was assisted by Rev. John Schultz, a Lutheran minister. From this time on there was a succession of Lutheran ministers. From 1843, for 10 years, Rev. John Felty was the pastor. In 1850, the present church building was erected. Rev. Augustus Bergner, a man of fine musical ability, served the congregation from 1853 to 1863, when Rev. Daniel Sanner, of Minersville, later of Tremont, began his pastorate of five years. Rev. John Webber suc-

ceeded Rev. Mr. Sanner until 1873. Pastors Weicksel, Fetter and Ritter served the congregation as Lutheran pastors until 1894, when Rev. Charles A. Kerschner became pastor. From 1900 to the present time the Lutheran pastors at Kimmel's have been: Rev. A. H. Klick, 1900-1912; Rev. M. W. Krouse, 1912-1918; Rev. Levi Yiengst, 1918-1923; Rev. Amon Lichty, Jr., 1924-1933; Rev. Carl M. Moyer, 1933-.

On the Reformed side of the Kimmel's Church, after Rev. Mr. Stiely, the pastors have been: Rev. Christian Baum, 1881-1884; Rev. John C. G. Glantz, 1884-1889; Rev. Geo. J. Lisberger, 1889-1891; Rev. Wm. G. Engle, 1891-1893; Rev. Oliver F. Schaffer, 1894-1905; Rev. Roy J. Freeman, 1906-1907; Rev. C. D. Kressley, 1908-1917; Rev. Benj. F. Luckenbill, 1917-1923; Rev. Russel D. Custer, 1924-1926; Rev. Herman J. Naftzinger, 1927-.

The present church building is the third place of worship for the Lutheran and the Reformed people of this community. The first, as stated above, was the log school house, a little southwest of the present church. The second church building was on the opposite side of the street.

An active young people's society and a Sunday School carry on much of the church activities of the congregations.

Many of the pioneer settlers of the township are buried in the cemetery belonging to the church.

Church of God

The founder of the Church of God organization was Rev. John Winebrenner, a Reformed minister at Harrisburg, who in 1832 formulated a creed based on the Holy Scriptures, and which espouses a holy life, and non-conformity with the world. In this belief, a little band of Christians gathered in 1842,

at what is now the village of Weishample, and was organized into a congregation by Elder Thomas Strahm. John Geist was chosen elder. In 1855, a chapel, or church, was built at a cost of \$1,000.

The church at Weishample belonged from the beginning to the Valley View Circuit, which comprises, in addition to the Weishample congregations, the church at Valley View and two churches in Eldred Township.

United Brethren

In 1862, a mission of the United Brethren Church was established in Barry Township, and Rev. L. W. Cranner was assigned to it by the East Pennsylvania Conference. In 1863 this circuit, then comprising the Barry Mission, Valley View (Germantown), and Hubley Township churches, was attached to the Lykens circuit, and was supplied by Rev. David Moyer and Rev. Jacob Runk. In 1864, the Lykens circuit was supplied by Rev. H. E. Hackman and Rev. John Lowery. The following year these churches were detached from the Lykens circuit and became a separate charge, known as the Germantown Mission. Rev. Frederick List was assigned to the mission, and he served until 1867. Later pastors were: Rev. Jas. Shoop, 1867-1870; Rev. Wm. Dissinger, 1870-1872; Rev. J. M. Mark, 1872-1874; Rev. H. E. Hackman, 1874-1875; Rev. Simon Noll 1875-1877; Rev. Lewis Fleisher, 1877-1878. In 1878 churches of the mission were recognized as a circuit, known as the Valley View circuit. Rev. Jas. Shook was the first assigned pastor to the circuit, and he served until 1880. The church is a part of the Tremont circuit, with Rev. R. G. Bechtel, pastor.

Christ Independent Church

Christ Independent Church at

Mowry was organized in 1904. Rev. E. E. Clark was the first pastor, and H. B. Smith was the first superintendent of the Sunday School. The church was dedicated Feb. 18, 1906, with Rev. T. Asher Hess, of Phila., in charge. Rev. August Williams is the present pastor.

St. Peters Evangelical Lutheran Church at Huntersville was built in 1904. Rev. Morris F. Good was the pastor. Rev. C. E. Rudy of Ashland, is the present minister.

Christ Evangelical Church of Lavelle, was built in 1904, with Rev. A. C. Rothermel as the pastor. Rev. W. M. Bierchler is the pastor.

A Holiness Christian Church is situated between Mabel and Taylorsville. The pastor of Emanuel Evangelical Church at Barry is Geo. Albright, of Locust Dale.

Education

Barry Township accepted the public school system in 1852, although subscription schools were maintained for many years prior to that date. In 1816 the people built a log school house opposite the site of Kimmel's Lutheran and Reformed Church, and hired Wm. Bolich to teach the school.

In 1854, four public schools were maintained for a term of four months, with an enrollment of 156 pupils, of whom 26 were studying in the German language. The teachers were paid \$26.50 a month. The expenses for operating the schools were separated under two items: Instruction, \$424.00; fuel and contingencies, \$60.00. The total cost of teaching each child was 68 cents a month. This was one cent more than the average cost of public education for the county. The revenue for maintaining the schools was obtained from two sources, local taxes, \$419.26; state appropriation, \$70.05.

In 1856, Barry Township lost one of the four schools by having part of her territory taken to form the new township of Foster. The following year a new building was erected, thus maintaining the original number of four schools. The term and salary remained the same. In the report of County Supt. Jonathan K. Krewson for 1857 appears this rather significant comment on the school district of Barry Township: "Some years ago when the free school system was first accepted and put in operation in Barry Township, the people acting as directors, from a desire to conciliate the inveterate and rather turbulent opposition which was manifested by a part of the people, made the first tax at a very low rate, and resorted to a loan to enable them to build school houses. This well meant policy, of a low tax at first to be annually increased to liquidate the indebtedness of the district, has unfortunately had the effect to keep the opposition still alive. She will outgrow this opposition, however, in a short time, and her schools will then hasten their now gradual improvement."

By way of contrast, as well as giving the present situation of public education of Barry Township, the following report for the term of 1932-1933 may be of interest:

Amount of tax levied on property and per capita, for school purposes, \$9,992.20; amount state appropriation, on account teachers' salaries, \$4,248; on account transportation, \$1,562.40; on account high school tuition, \$854.80, total state appropriation, \$6,665.23.

Teachers term of 1934-35: Huntersville—G. W. Neidhammer, Mrs. Clara S. Seltzer, Laura Hornberger; Taylorsville—Mabel E. Zimmerman, Clyde F. Neidhammer; Mabel—Lauretta L. Bechtel; Klinger's—

Harvey Updegrave; Weishample—Deborah Kehler. Total, expenses of instruction (teachers' salary and high school tuition), \$8,754.42. All other expenses (general control, transportation fuel, repairs, insurance, etc.), \$3,251.19.

Total net enrollment local school, 354.

Total net enrollment in high schools at Ashland and Hegins, 62.

Total number of pupils from Barry Township attending public schools, 416.

Although the township does not provide education beyond the eighth grade in the home schools, yet a very large per cent of the boys and girls of Barry continue their education by taking a four-year high school course in the nearby high schools of Ashland Borough and Hegins Township. The school board provides transportation. In 1934, Green's school house was destroyed by fire. The pupils that attended this school are transported to the graded schools at Taylorsville and Huntersville. This may be the beginning of consolidation of all the schools of the district.

The members of the school board (1934-1935) are: Peter Wetzel, president; H. E. Shuey, secretary; Jas. Wetzel, treasurer; Jas. Maurer and Felix Lecher.

Population of Barry Township, according to the U. S. Census: 1830, 443; 1840, 639; 1850, 689; 1860, 943; 1870, 950; 1880, 1587; 1890, 1400; 1900, 1080; 1910, 1246; 1920, 1248; 1930, 1326.

The assessed valuation, real estate—seated and unseated—is \$331,276, or \$250 per capita. This meagre source for revenue is a serious handicap to an adequate development of the local affairs of the township in schools and roads.

Summer Resorts

Along the mountain in the southern part of the township is Beury's. Here, where a few years ago was just woodland with a stream of pure mountain spring water running through it has been developed a beautiful summer resort. A large artificial lake affords swimming and boating. Bungalows and log cabins line the shore and dot the woods. It is an ideal place for camping and picnicking.

Another resort is Hesse's, near Taylorsville on the Mahanoy Creek. A fine swimming pool, dancing pavilion and auditorium are the attractions which make it a favorite place for thousands of people during the summer season.

There are also picnic groves belonging to the United Brethren, the Reformed and Lutheran and the Church of God congregations. The one at Weishample has a large pavilion, which is used for outdoor religious services during the summer. There is also a fine park at Mowry.

The Honyost stream along the Little Mountain affords excellent trout fishing, and the beautiful grove through which it flows is a resort for small picnic and scouting parties.

Fraternal Societies

Washington Camp No. 72, P. O. S. of A., at Weishample, was organized May 12, 1871, with the following charter members: C. W. Hoch, G. K. Klinger, William Erdman, Geo. W. Wolfgang, E. Wolfgang, H. J. Wolfgang, W. E. Hoch, George A. Ely, Benjamin Hoch, Alfred Klinger, Lewis Mattern, Geo. W. Derr, and William Knorr, Alfred Klinger, now in his eighty-fourth year, is the only surviving member of the thirteen. G. H. Hawksworth was State President of the Order at the time the charter

for 72 was granted. H. J. Stager was State Secretary, and J. G. Bast, State Master of Forms. The membership increased to eighty in a few years. In 1876 C. W. Hoch built a hall for the lodge by adding a story to his residence and store. The present membership is twenty-five. Tias Kessler is President and Irvin Klinger, Secretary.

Weishample Grange No. 1898, P. of H.

Weishample Grange was granted a charter by the State Grange, May 12, 1922. The first officers were: Worthy Master, I. A. Klinger; Secretary, C. S. Maurer; Treasurer, Thomas Green; Lecturer, C. F. Deitrich; Overseer, R. C. Ludwig; Steward, Carl Kimmel. The number of charter members was eighty-seven. The membership rapidly increased to one hundred fifty-five. At present the membership is seventy-five, consisting of men and women and young people. Topics on agriculture, schools, home, current and historical events are discussed at its meetings. The meetings are often public. The work of the 4-H Club was introduced into the community through the Grange. A Grange picnic is held annually. In former years a display of fruit, vegetables, fancy work, etc., was one of the features of the picnic. The exhibits were judged and prizes awarded. At present these exhibits are made at the County Fair, at which place the Weishample Grange has been awarded several first prizes and a number of second and third prizes for its display. The Grange also participated in a number of contests at the Farmer's Field Days at Cressona Park, and won a number of individual prizes. Box socials, banquets, corn and doggie roasts, valentine exchanges, Christmas

gift exchanges are some of the many social events sponsored by the organization. Recently a Booster Team and a Debating Team were organized.

The officers at present are: Worthy Master, Webster Ebert; Secretary, H. B. Ludwig; Treasurer, John H. Maurer; Lecturer, Pearl Klinger; Overseer, Jerome Brennan; Steward, Clarence Maurer; Assistant Steward, Ralph Dietrich; Lady Assistant Steward, Grace Maurer; Chaplain, R. C. Ludwig; and Pianist, Mildred Ludwig.

H. E. Shuey is Steward and Webster Ebert, gatekeeper, of the Sch. County Pomona Grange and the Weishample Grange, was awarded a silver cup for having the greatest number of members present at three consecutive meetings of the Pomona Grange.

Weishample 4-H Club

In 1925 a 4-H Club was organized at Weishample by Walter L. Bollinger, Farm Extension Agent, who acted as supervisor of the various activities of the club, consisting of pig, celery, sweet corn, capon and cantaloup husbandry. In 1932 Altheda Morgan won first prize of five dollars on a three hundred twenty-eight pound pig.

In 1929 the clothing club was organized by Miss Reynolds. Due to the differences in age, two divisions were formed. The first members were Mildred Ludwig, Marian Ludwig, Carrie Klinger, Elsie Yarnell, Sarah Ludwig, Lulu Ludwig, Anna Ebert, Kathryn Maurer, Emma Kessler, Kathryn Kessler, Iva Shadle, Alva Shuey, Ada Klinger, Mary Huratiak, Altheda Morgan, Arlene Morgan, Grace Maurer, Pearl Klinger, Katie Yoder, Mildred Zimmerman, Carrie Shuey and Beatrice Shuey.

In 1933, Beatrice Shuey, having won first prize in clothing, was sent to Club Week at State College and Elsie Yarnell was sent to 4-H Camp near Philadelphia. In 1934, Mary Huratiak was sent to Leadership Training and Club Week at State College. The Club has an annual picnic at one of the local parks, and the members always attend the county wide roundup and picnic. The work of the projects of the Club were exhibited at the Hegins Township Farm Show and at the Pennsylvania Farm Products Show at Harrisburg in 1934. The local leaders are Marian Ludwig and Mrs. Elwood Sweitzer.

Mount Carbon A Small Borough

(From "Pottsville Republican"—"Morning Paper," March 2, 1935)

The visitor to Mount Carbon in 1935 finds a peaceful little borough of 311 inhabitants. All are industrious and happy. But had that same person been able to visit Mt. Carbon in the year 1835, what a different picture he would have seen, for the town was then in its heyday and much of the activity of this immediate section was centered there.

According to the early histories, among the earliest residents of Mt. Carbon were Lewis Murphy and Jos. Porter, who resided in log houses which have long disappeared. Necho (Necho) Allen also lived there in 1818 and had a saw-mill where the borough is now located. His first house stood on the site of the later Reading Railroad Co. depot but he later resided in the ravine which now is Main Street.

In 1825, the Schuylkill Canal had been opened to Mt. Carbon and there was much activity in the shipping line for farmers and dealers in produce of all kinds brought their goods to the canal for shipment to Philadelphia and points along the line. Prior to 1827, John White, who was afterwards the President of the Mt. Carbon Railroad Co., built a row of stone houses which adjoined the Mansion House which was built later on. The Kleinert house on the opposite corner and a few smaller houses were also in existence.

But, while Mt. Carbon was increasing in importance, the neighboring little town of Pottsville was also rapidly increasing in population and industries and in 1828, Pottsville was incorporated as

a borough. A dispute arose over the matter for the Mt. Carbon neighbors wished to be included in the newly incorporated town but they also wished to have the new town named Mt. Carbon instead of Pottsville. However, the Pottsville inhabitants won out in the dispute and Mt. Carbon remained a separate borough. Oddly enough, although the name means Mountain of Coal, there is no coal in the borough.

In 1828, we are told that there were six dwelling houses, a store, a collector's office and a two-story warehouse which was built in 1824, being owned and occupied by Gaius Moore. Jos. White and Benj. Combs conducted the firm which dealt largely in produce which was brought in wagons from Lebanon, Union, Dauphin and Northumberland Counties to be shipped to Phila. The miners of the Delaware Coal Co., of which John White was the head, also secured their supplies there. It was in 1829 that the firm built a two-story stone warehouse directly across from the gas station, which has been constructed on the site of the Mansion House.

Besides being the northern terminus for the Schuylkill Navigation, Mt. Carbon was also the outlet for all of the commerce over the Center Turnpike because Centre St., Pottsville and through Mt. Carbon was the road bed for the Turnpike which was the main road between the Susquehanna region and Phila. However, with the completion of the Union Canal much of this commerce was diverted from the town and the large warehouses and docks which

had been built soon fell into disuse.

Another factor which contributed to the early success of Mt. Carbon was the fact that it became the terminus of the Reading Railroad Co. for some years. John White had built the Mansion House and this rapidly became a popular summer resort for people from Phila. and other big cities. The Lawtons in their time also had a magnificent home on Hillside at the west end of Mt. Carbon, but not in the borough proper. There was a big club house there, built of mountain stone and with brown stone trimmings. There were all sorts of game rooms and huge wine cellars were built into the hills. There were also large bathing and fishing pools adjoining.

In later years, a brewery was run in this stone club house by the Kleinerts and John Schneider. The Kleinerts had a wine garden at the corner of Centre and Main Sts., where the Mellet and Nichter Brewery later stood.

Saw First Train Arrive

It was in the summer of 1842 that hundreds of people gathered at the Mt. Carbon station to witness the first train coming in with passengers from Phila. From Mt. Carbon, it was necessary to convey the passengers to Pottsville by stage and bus. The depot was located where the oil house later stood. The baggage was slid down an inclined plane, on the level below the railroad and dumped into the two-wheeled carts attached to the buses. Many of the passengers did not come to Pottsville but rather remained at the Mansion House which was then quite a fashionable hotel. This first arrival of a railroad train from Phila. marked the passing of the old stage coach days.

The Mansion House was quite a pretentious hotel. To it came many distinguished guests. Although historians tell of John White building

the hotel as early as 1829, the main structure was evidently not built until 1840. It was strongly built of red stone which had been dug from the mountainside. The structure was substantially built, the majority of the timbers being of 3x8 dimensions and a second wall was built inside the front and rear walls at a distance of about eight inches from the main walls. Tales are told of the visits of General Grant and party, the Prince of Wales and other notables. It was razed in March of 1930 by George Watson of Port Carbon and he found that much of the timber and stone could be salvaged and used again for building.

Became Borough In 1864

Mt. Carbon was incorporated as a borough in 1864. The Mt. Carbon Rolling Mill was built in 1865 by Pott and Vastine for the Mt. Carbon Rolling Mill Co. It was operated until 1867 but at a loss. It was then leased to Edw. Sheetz, of Reading, who operated it until 1870 and then abandoned it. It was never active again and was destroyed by fire on April 23, 1879.

On April 1, 1879, the Center Turnpike Co. announced that it would install a toll bridge on the Mt. Carbon bridge and charge toll to all who used the turnpike. The Court had ruled, just a short time before that, that the bridge which crossed the Schuylkill River below Mt. Carbon was unsafe for travel and had ordered the Turnpike Co. to repair. Unable to stand the expense of the repairs, they installed the toll gate to meet expenses. Joss Ossman was the first toll gate keeper and at his death, his wife continued in the position. At her death in 1879, Henry Hall, who lived but a stone's throw from the bridge was appointed toll gate keeper.

Census Figures

According to the Mt. Carbon census figures for 1835, there were at

that time 205 residents in the borough, 118 free males and 5 colored males and 87 free white females and three colored females. Later census figures show that there were 335 inhabitants in 1910; 331 in 1920 and 311 in 1930.

The closing of the Mt. Carbon Reading Station marked the end of Mt. Carbon's railroad history. The terminus of the road had been changed to Pottsville many years before. On Nov. 17, 1901, the notice was served that thereafter no P. & R. passenger train would stop at Mt. Carbon.

Old Boardwalk Popular

One of the memories of Mt. Carbon is the old boardwalk at the end of Centre St. For many years, this was a favorite place for a Sunday afternoon stroll and after the Sunday School sessions, the young folk usually enjoyed a walk down as far as the arch. Now this is a thing of the past, and a fine new pavement has supplanted the old landmark.

Despite the fact that Mt. Carbon is one of the smallest boroughs in the county, it is a progressive little place and enjoys its independence and its ability to handle its own affairs.

There are about seventy houses in the borough. There are fine streets. Centre St. is paved because of being the state road and Main St. is also paved, the borough having undertaken and completed that job in the past year.

An Ungraded School

Although there are about eighty children of school age, only about 42 attend school in the borough school. The remainder attend the Pottsville schools. The Mt. Carbon school is a one-room ungraded school taught by Mrs. Mary Garrihan, of Port Carbon. The school board members are: Edw. Nixon, Pres.; P. J. McIntyre, Vice Pres.;

Thomas F. Dee, Secy.; Mrs. Richard Malone, Treas., and J. A. Wachter.

The borough council is composed of Pres., R. E. Cole; Wm. Shaw, Jos. Bettinger, Matthew J. Cummings, John Cowhey and Chas. Kehoe.

Fire Company

There is an energetic little Fire Co., the Mt. Carbon Fire Co., which officially opened its new fire house on Sept. 24, 1912. Prior to that time, the company had maintained its quarters in a small building in what was known as the "hollow." The officers of the company are as follows: Thos. Dee, Pres.; Wm. Shaw, Vice Pres.; Wm. Cowhey, Secy.; Kimber H. Hoy, Treas. The Trustees are: Jos. Julian, John Cowhey, Sr., and Allen Shoemaker.

Industries

There is really only one industry in the borough itself, and that is the Mt. Carbon Mfg. Company. The Pottsville Building Block Co., the Pottsville Baking Co. and the Mt. Carbon Yards of the Pennsy are really over the borough line, but a number of residents of Mt. Carbon are employed by these industries.

On Sept. 16, 1885, Lorenz Schmidt, who had been operating the Orchard Brewery, purchased the Ernst Kleintert property in Mt. Carbon and later erected a new lager beer brewery, which was operated by the Schmidt family for many years. It was purchased by Michael Mellet of Shenandoah and J. H. Nichter, of Pottsville and became known as the Mellet and Nichter Brewing Co. in 1908, and was thus known until it was taken over by a corporation, which formed the Mt. Carbon Manufacturing & Supply Co. This corporation was composed of R. E. Davidson, Brockton, Pres.; C. J. Sharpe, Coaldale, Vice Pres., and Harry Bassler, Brockton, Secy. and Treas. In 1930, it was leased by Matthew Kelly, of Heckscherville and he has since been operating it.

History of Ashland Churches

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* March 4-6, 1935)

By S. FRANK WILLIAMS

When the history of Ashland was published, (See Pages 491-495) that of the churches of the town had not been compiled. S. Frank Williams, who had been interested in the development of the town for many years, volunteered to contribute the following information in order that the church history may not be entirely omitted.

The Ashland Evangelical Church had its beginning in the year 1860, when Ernest Guinther, Robert Shivel, Samuel Stitzer, Michael Manhart, Daniel Luckenbill, Edw. Heindshoe, Mr. Bunker, and Mr. Stettler formed a class and united themselves with the Evangelical Association.

The Association had established classes in the Deep Creek and Mahantongo Valleys and the whole group was called The Ashland Circuit.

The first pastor of the congregation was the Rev. M. Sindlinger and the first services were held in the little stone school house situated at Tenth and Walnut Sts. In June of 1862, the congregation purchased the church at Ninth and Spruce Sts. recently vacated by the Methodist Episcopal congregation. The purchase price was \$600.

In 1888, the brick church at Ninth and Market Sts., was built and the first floor rooms were finished and dedicated in that year.

In 1889, the main auditorium was finished and dedicated. The cost of the building was \$8,984. The completion of the new church was a happy occasion for the members of this church. Until this time pastor and people had worked under handicaps and now they entered upon a new epoch with many

dreams realized and bright visions for the future.

The saddest day came to the congregation in 1894, when they were forced by a court decree to vacate this church which had meant so much to them. In 1894, the property at 13th and Market St. was purchased.

Plans for a two-story building were made at once and in 1895 the new church was dedicated. The cost of the church was \$8,000 and the entire amount was pledged when the church was dedicated. John H. Wagner, Chas. C. Masser, Samuel Wirt, Wm. Mattern, Christian Eisinger comprised the building committee.

During the time of the building of this church the congregation worshipped in a church building situated on Chestnut St. building Ninth and Tenth Sts., the property of the Welsh Congregational Church.

When the property was purchased in 1894, it contained a small dwelling. In 1905, a parsonage was built on the 13th and Chestnut Sts. end of the lots. The parsonage cost \$3,000.

Chronology of Pastorates

1860, Rev. M. Sindlinger; 1861, Rev. Joseph Gross; 1862, Revs. J. Fry and I. E. Knerr; during this year the Ashland Circuit was extended to in-

clude Mahanoy City, Hazleton and all intervening territory; 1863-1864, Rev. C. Gingrich and Rev. D. Lentz; 1865, Rev. J. Stetzler and Rev. David Hambright; 1866, Rev. W. K. Wieand and Rev. J. Stetzer; 1867, Rev. T. Flattenberger; 1868-1869, Rev. D. C. Kemble; 1870-1871, Rev. J. Savits; 1872-1873-1874, Rev. Isaac Yeakle served the church at Ashland, Gordon and Mahanoy Plane; 1875-1876, Rev. D. S. Stauffer; 1877-8-9, Rev. Augustus Dillabar; 1880-1-2, Rev. T. A. Hess; 1883-4, Rev. I. Zimmerman; 1885, Rev. J. K. Fehr, Rev. E. R. Seip; 1886-1887, Rev. J. K. Fehr, Rev. G. A. Knerr; 1888-1889, —; 1890-1-2, Rev. J. L. Guinther; 1893, Rev. H. M. Wingert; 1894-5, Rev. D. G. Sweigert; 1896-7, Rev. C. E. Hess; 1898-9, 1900-1, Rev. H. M. Wingert; 1902-3-4, Rev. W. W. Yost; 1905, Rev. Joseph S. Harper; 1906-7-8, Rev. N. A. Barr; 1909-10-11-12, Rev. Joseph G. Gross; 1913-14, Rev. Ralph Deibert; 1915-16, Rev. John U. Slack; 1917-18, Rev. W. S. Reher; 1919, Rev. E. R. Hart; 1920-21-22, Rev. N. N. Lower; 1923-1927, Rev. H. S. Heffner; 1928, Rev. S. H. Chubb; 1929-30, Rev. Claude S. Heim.

Methodist Episcopal Church

The Methodist Church, of Ashland, had its beginning when in the year 1853, under the leadership of Rev. John W. Elliott, of the Baltimore Conference, and at the time a preacher in charge of the Catawissa Circuit, organized a class in the town consisting of the sixteen following named persons: William Davis, Esq., Harriet Davis, Jacob G. Gensel, Washington Ludwig, Eliza Perry, Elizabeth Seitzinger, Catherine Ludwig, Hanna Brown, C. Wesley Davis, Sarah Fenstermacher, Caroline Keeler, Jonathan Hoagland, Catherine Hoagland, Melvina Crevelling.

The preaching services were held in the stone school house, corner of Tenth and Walnut St., and the class

meetings in the homes of the members.

In 1856, a one-story frame church was built on the corner of Ninth and Brock St. The building cost \$1,500 and was dedicated in October of that year, Dr. Thos. Bowman conducting the services.

In 1862 two lots on the corner of Eleventh and Centre Sts. were purchased for the purpose of building a church and parsonage, and the building at Ninth and Brock Sts. was sold to the Evangelical Congregation.

In 1863, a brick church building, 40x65, was erected at 11th and Centre Sts. The cornerstone was laid by Mortimer M. Crosthwaite and contained the names of Thomas M. Reese, presiding elder; W. M. Shwalter, pastor; Trustees, Samuel Camp, James Bevan, Henry Tregellas, William Perry, Samuel McConnell, Emanuel Wilson, Isaac F. Kline, Jeremiah F. Price, John W. Sober; Building Committee: Samuel Camp, Henry Tregellas, Emanuel Wilson. The cost of the building was \$8,000.

In 1873, the parsonage at 11th and Chestnut Sts. was built. The building is a brick structure 25x48 and cost \$3,500. About this same time the Sunday School rooms were remodeled, frescoed, carpeted and an organ purchased.

In 1891, mining operations had so disturbed the foundations and walls of the brick church building that the congregation became apprehensive as to the safety of the building and decided to raze it. On Sunday, August 23rd, 1891, the cornerstone for the new edifice was laid. The new church was a two-story frame building. On Dec. 29th of the same year the first floor was ready for occupancy and this room was used for all church services for a number of years. The building committee was C. H. Barnard, James R.

Cleaver, W. A. Phillips, S. L. Price, James Price, Jr.

In 1894 the auditorium was finished and a pipe organ installed. The work was done under the direction of the following committee: W. A. Phillips, C. H. Barnard, John C. Garner, S. L. Price, Daniel Goudge.

In 1912, a new pipe organ was installed to replace the 1894 organ.

Chronology of Pastorates

1853, Rev. John W. Elliott; 1853-4, Rev. R. Wesley Black, Rev. F. M. Schlosser; 1855, Rev. Jos. Y. Rothrock, Rev. Martin L. Drum; 1856, Rev. Jos. Y. Rothrock, Rev. J. W. Stout; 1857, Rev. J. A. DeMoyer, Rev. Henry S. Mendenhall; 1858, Rev. J. A. DeMoyer, Rev. Thomas B. Sargent; 1859-60, Rev. Samuel Wesley Sears; 1861-62, Rev. Aaron M. Kester; 1863-64, Rev. Wesley M. Showalter; 1864, Rev. J. F. Clymer; 1865-66, Rev. Benjamin F. Stevens; 1867-68-69, Rev. A. M. Creighton; 1870-72, Rev. Asbury W. Guyer; 1873-75, Rev. Wm. A. Houck; 1876-77, Rev. A. M. Barnitz; 1878-79, Rev. W. G. Ferguson; 1880-82, Rev. John A. DeMoyer; 1883-85, Rev. John Donahoe; 1886-87, Rev. A. S. Bowman; 1888-90, Rev. W. C. Robbins; 1891-92, Rev. Jos. P. Moore; 1893-94, Rev. W. F. D. Noble; 1895-99, Rev. Oliver S. Metzler; 1900-01, Rev. E. H. Witman; 1902-04, Rev. W. McKendree Reiley; 1905-07, Rev. H. C. Pardee; 1908-10, Rev. J. H. Mortimer; 1910-1912, Rev. J. D. W. Deavor; 1912-18, Rev. D. M. Grover; 1918-22, Rev. Frank W. Leidy; 1922-25, Rev. L. D. Ott; 1925-27, Rev. Geo. E. Johnson; 1927-30, Rev. John W. Glover; 1930-31, Rev. E. J. Symons; 1931, Rev. H. T. Covert.

St. Joseph's Church

Like most of the Ashland churches which had their beginning in the pioneer days of the town, St. Joseph's held their first meetings in the Tenth St. school house when a mission was organized by Rev. Jos. O'Keefe.

On June 14, 1856, the first Mass was celebrated by Rev. Thos. Lyndon who came from St. Patrick's Church, Pottsville. Rev. Lyndon served the new congregation until September of 1857 when Rev. Michael Sheridan was appointed as the resident pastor.

The personality of Rev. Michael Sheridan is so woven into the history of St. Joseph's Church that the minute recording of his biography would not only make profitable reading for future generations, who might be interested in church history, but would illuminate the pages of secular history as well. No single individual in the history of the community has exerted so great an influence on the morals of its citizenry, no one could so masterfully bring order out of chaos.

Ashland has never had a priest so esteemed and venerated by all the people as was Rev. Michael Sheridan. He died September 25th, 1880, and on the day of his burial all business in the town suspended, shops closed, the mines did not work, the public schools held no sessions and the entire population, irrespective of creed, attended his funeral.

He lived a simple life, ate plain food and attired himself in clothing similar to that worn by the poorest of his parishioners. It was like him to request that he be buried in Ashland, that his coffin be plain and unpainted, and that no sermon be preached unless the Bishop ordained otherwise. He gave his best without a thought of earthly reward. Rev. Sheridan was born in Ireland, in 1820, which by coincident was the year in which the first house was built in Ashland. He came to America in 1848, and was assigned to missionary work by Bishop Newman and served in the counties of Columbia, Northumberland and Montour and until he was assigned to Ashland in 1857.

Rev. Sheridan matriculated at some of the best colleges of the old world, but he made no show of his superior learning. It was his privilege to know intimately such Irish leaders as Daniel O'Connell, Charles Stewart Parnell, and the other outstanding men of that day who shaped the destiny of their country.

He was very fond of music and though he himself could not sing, he saw to it that singing classes were conducted under capable teachers.

In the early history of Ashland musical instruments were a luxury and organs were a rare possession. Father Sheridan placed an order for one dozen melodians; some of these instruments are still owned by our people.

When Father Sheridan came to Ashland, his parish comprised Centralia, Mt. Carmel, Gordon, Fountain Springs, Girardville, Mahanoy Plane, Connerton, Shenandoah.

The building of the first church was begun as soon as the congregation was organized. The structure was of native mountain stone and occupied the site of the building that succeeded it on the plot of ground situated southwest corner of Eleventh and Walnut Sts.

The original church was enlarged in 1863, at which time a rectory was also built, the rectory occupying the corner lot.

In the year 1886, during the pastorate of Rev. Cornelius Patterson, a new church and rectory were built, both buildings being constructed of brick.

Chronology of Pastorates

Mission organized by Rev. Jos. O'Keefe.

First Mass celebrated by Rev. Thos. Lynon.

First resident priest, Rev. Michael Sheridan, 1857-1880; Rev. Cornelius Patterson, 1880-1894; Rev. Hugh J. McGettigan, 1894-1913; Rev. Daniel McGinley, 1913-1924; Rev.

Jos. McDermott, 1924-1930; Rev. Francis Hoey, 1930—.

Contribution of St. Joseph's parish has the extreme honor of contributing to the priesthood the following: Cardinal Dennis Dougherty, Bishop Michael Crane.

Rev. P. V. O'Brien, Rev. Philip Murphy, Rev. Edw. Regan, Rev. Peter Burke, Rev. Jas. Flanagan, Rev. Michael Colahan, Rev. John Craven, Rev. John Moore, Rev. Edw. O'Neill, Rev. Thomas Colahan, Rev. Raymond Campbell, Rev. Vincent Campbell, Rev. Cornelius Burke, Rev. Edw. Kane, Rev. Vincent Burke, Rev. Neal Devitt, Rev. John Monaghan.

In 1913, the cornerstone of St. Joseph's School building was laid, and in September, 1914, the grade school was opened, with an enrollment of 276 pupils.

First classes in high school were enrolled at the beginning of 1915 term.

The school was remodeled and enlarged in 1928.

The enrollment for 1934 listed 333 pupils in grades, and 101 in the high school.

The school is in charge of Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

In 1914, a temporary convent was made, by remodeling a dwelling which adjoined the school building. In 1919, this building was razed and a new modern convent erected on the site of the old building.

Names of young women of the parish who have embraced the religious state are as follows:

Catherine Campbell, Mary Casey, Anna Burns, Margaret Perrong, Mary Monaghan, Eileen O'Donnell, Matilda Boppel, Nora Casey, Margaret O'Donnell, Elizabeth Sullivan, Sarah Daley, Catherine Madden, Margaret Stabler, Margaret Casey.

St. Mauritius Church

Prompted by a desire to have a church of their own, the German

speaking Roman Catholics living in Ashland and vicinity, in September of the year 1856, organized the St. Mauritius Congregation.

For several years prior to the organization of the church, services had been conducted in the town by priests who came from St. Clair, Minersville and other nearby towns. The first mass was celebrated in the home of Ferdinand Loeper, at 912 Walnut St., by Father Wegge-man. When the congregation grew too large to be accommodated in the Loeper home, services were held in the stone school house situated at Tenth and Walnut Sts., where mass was celebrated once a month and until the original church was built.

This congregation, like most pioneer congregations, had a very humble beginning. The original church building was a small stone structure and was erected under the supervision of Rev. M. J. Meurer, the first resident priest.

So as to encourage building in the western end of the town, Mr. Brock wanted the committee to build their church somewhere near 20th and Spruce Sts., but a majority voted for the present site.

The building committee was composed of the following gentlemen: Adam Hornung, Cressent Hornung, Englebert Kraft, Ferdinand Loeper, Joseph Loeper, John Mandler, Frank Mandler, Mathias Mandler, Frank Mendler, George Schaetzel, Joseph Schaetzel, August Schaeffer, John Schaeffer.

It was a very happy occasion when the individual members of the committee contributed the \$75 down money and tied the bargain with Mr. Brock, the purchase price of the lots being \$150.

In the year 1862 an extension was built on the south end of the church and a stone tower on the north end. The original building, which was 48x50, was thereby increased

to 48x110 feet. It was at this time the large imported German clock and the bells were placed in the tower.

These improvements to the church property were made during the pastorate of Rev. J. B. Bach. The first rectory was begun during the pastorate of Rev. L. B. Frisch and completed under the direction of Father Bach.

In 1900 the stone church was razed and a new church erected on the site of the first church at 8th and Pine Sts. The new edifice was built of brick and covers the area of two lots with a frontage of 50 ft. and a depth of 125 ft. The seating capacity of the church, excluding the gallery is 600. The building cost \$28,000.

In 1910 the rectory was rebuilt at a cost of \$8,300. The new church and rectory were built during the pastorate and under the direction of Rev. A. Misteli.

On Jan. 31st, 1916, St. Mauritius Church celebrated its sixtieth anniversary and they called it a jubilee, and well they could, for on that anniversary the ledger was balanced, they owed no man a cent and a happier pastor and flock would be hard to find.

In 1881, under the direction of Rev. A. Nathe, a brick school building was erected. The school was placed in charge of the Sisters of St. Francis. The building contained four class rooms and could accommodate 200 pupils. The Sisters' home was on the second floor of the building. In the year 1929, a convent was built by the parish. The plans for the building were prepared by D. H. Grootenboer, and the building erected by Leister and Rowe, building contractors. The plumbing and heating plant was installed by Holvey & Gable. The cost of the building proper was \$19,500. The interior furnishings

cost \$3,500. Total \$23,000. The home was ready for occupancy in February, 1930.

During the summer of 1930, the school was remodeled at a cost of \$12,000 and was ready for use when the fall term began.

When the new church was built in 1900, the basement was excavated only sufficiently to accommodate the heating plant. In 1920, the basement was excavated and equipped and furnished as social rooms.

In 1924, at a cost of \$5,300 a pipe organ was installed.

The parish owns its own cemetery situated on the western outskirts of Ashland Borough. The first plot of ground was presented by Brocks and some years later the P. & R. C. & I. Co. deeded an additional piece of ground to the congregation. The congregation takes great pride in its cemetery and have made it a credit to the parish.

During the spring and summer of 1932 and 1933, a tennis court was built on the plot of ground just east of the school building. The cost of materials for the construction of the court was \$870, the entire amount being contributed by the Alumni Association of the parish.

His Eminence, D. Cardinal Dougherty, granted permission to establish a mission at Lavelle, and on May 15th, 1932, the first Mass was celebrated by the pastor, H. A. Kuss, in the home of George J. Quinton, Sr.

Chronology of Pastorates

Rev. Weggeman, the first missionary. 1856-58, Rev. M. J. Meurer; 1858-61, Rev. J. B. Frisch; 1861-67, J. B. Bach; 1867-68, Rev. J. C. Pappe; 1868-73, Rev. M. J. Meurer; 1873-1878, Rev. Fred Longinus; 1878-98, Rev. A. Nathe; 1898-1927, Rev. A. Misteli; 1927, Rev. Henry Kuss.

Assistant Pastorates

May, 1923, Rev. Jos. Osthemier; June, 1924, Rev. Jos. E. Unterkoefer; Sept., 1924, Rev. Chas. Otterbein; July, 1925-1927, Rev. Francis Brecker; May, 1932, Rev. Raymond Kohl; June, 1932, Rev. Albert L. Glass; June, 1933, Rev. John E. Engler; June, 1934, Rev. Francis Adolf

St. James Lutheran Church

In the year 1858, Ashland could boast of having two school buildings, the one a frame building situated at Fifth and Walnut Sts., and the other a stone structure situated at Tenth and Walnut Sts.

It was in the stone school building that all of the original churches of Ashland had their beginning and from the stone school house the various denominations branched out to find their individual homes.

Thus on April 11th, 1858, we find a group of Lutherans assembled in the school building at Fifth and Walnut Sts. organizing a church under the leadership of Rev. W. L. Heiser. On May 2nd, a Church School was organized with nine teachers and twenty-seven scholars. The formal organization of St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church followed on June 16th of that year.

In June of 1859, the congregation purchased three lots situated at Ninth and Market Sts., and soon after built a frame church building on the corner of Ninth and Chestnut Sts. This building had a frontage on Ninth St. of 28 feet and a depth of 45 feet. The three lots cost \$550.

During its early years St. James parish extended to include Mt. Carmel, Ringtown and Gordon.

In the year 1871, a parsonage was built at the corner of Ninth and Market Sts. at a cost of \$4,000.

In 1883, the church celebrated its 25th anniversary and at that time the membership subscribed \$3,519 toward the building of a new church.

On June 22nd, 1884, the cornerstone for the new edifice was laid and on Jan. 18th, 1885, the church was dedicated. The structure was built of brick at a cost of \$7,895. The furnishings and organ added \$2,238 to the total cost of the church.

In 1903, a new pipe organ was installed at a cost of \$2,150.

In 1926, the parsonage received general repairs at a cost of \$2,200.

In 1931, the parsonage was completely renovated. The double dwelling adjoining the church property on Market St. was purchased in this year at a cost of \$4,500. In 1932-1933 the Sunday School rooms and church auditorium were materially altered.

The charter members of the original church organized under the leadership of Rev. W. L. Heisler were: Jeremiah Logan, Mary Logan, George H. Helfrich, Margaret Helfrich, Jacob Shuman and Mrs. Jacob Shuman, Mary Miller, Mary A. Klase, Mrs. Wm. H. Burchfield, Josiah Weimer, Mrs. E. Weimer, Miss Margaret Heiser, Mrs. N. Clayton, Polly Shuman.

Chronology of Pastorates

1858-1861, Rev. W. L. Heisler; 1862-64, Rev. F. A. Barnitz; 1864-67, Rev. J. R. Sikes; 1868-70, Rev. S. Curtis; 1871-75, Rev. J. A. Hackenberg; 1875-78, Rev. O. D. Marcle; 1878-79, Rev. D. E. Rupley; 1879-1887, Rev. J. H. Weber; 1887-89, Rev. E. Felton; 1889-97, Rev. W. Gland-ing; 1898-1904, Rev. E. G. Miller; 1904-08, Rev. E. B. Killinger; 1908-13, Rev. I. W. Bingaman; 1914-19, Rev. T. E. Shearer; 1919-21, Rev. G. G. Parker; 1922-26, Rev. G. A. Knerr; 1926, Rev. C. E. Rudy.

Sunday School Superintendents

Able Swift, Jeremiah Logan, Isaac Wagner, Henry Boner, Theodore Barron, Charles Russell, Edward Bloom, S. Monroe Enterline, Jeremiah Merwine, George Miller, Leroy Enterline.

The Presbyterian Church

It was in the summer of 1856 that the Rev. John Boswell Spotswood and his wife visited Ashland. The prime purpose of their visit was that the health of Mrs. Spotswood might be benefited thereby. Rev. Spotswood was a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary and at this time was pastor of the Presbyterian Church at New Castle, Delaware. The Spotswoods had come to Ashland on the invitation of Geo. M.

Kennedy and while here Rev. Spotswood preached on several occasions in the Stone School House.

Upon his return to New Castle, Dr. Spotswood wrote to the Rev. D. J. Waller, Bloomsburg, Pa., urging that the Presbytery of Northumberland County give Ashland serious consideration.

In the Autumn of 1856, Rev. Waller sent a request to Geo. M. Kennedy for such information that would serve Presbytery in deliberating the advisability of establishing a church in Ashland. When the letter arrived Mr. Kennedy was too ill to answer it and before the organization of the church in Ashland, in which he was so much interested, he had died.

In October of 1856, the Presbytery of Northumberland made several appointments for holding Divine Services in Ashland during the Winter. At the April meeting of the Presbytery in 1857, the Rev. D. J. Waller, Rev. Phineas B. Marr and Wm. Atwater, M. D., were appointed a committee to inquire into the expediency of organizing a church in Ashland. On July 26th, 1857, the church was formally organized. Rev. Phineas B. Marr preached the sermon. The organization comprised the following members: Mrs. Catherine Burkhart, Mrs. Mary R. Van Buren, Francis Davis, Mrs. Margaret Davis, Geo. W. Ulrick, Mrs. Mary Ulrick, Miss Anne McCay, Hazlitt McElwain, Jas. H. McElwain, Mrs. Jane McElwain, Mathew Blair, Elizabeth Blair, Jas. Callighan, Robert Pedlow, Robert C. Wilson, David J. McKibben M. D. and Delia Rea. Geo. W. Ulrick, Jas. McElwain were duly elected, ordained and installed as ruling elders.

Students and ministerial supplies conducted services until the Rev. Robt. Caldwell Bryson, a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, was called on July 13, 1859.

At a congregational meeting held Sept. 12, 1859, it was decided to purchase the plot of ground situated on the southeast corner of Ninth and Walnut Sts., from the Ashland Estate. The purchase price of the lots was \$875. A brick church building was erected at a cost of \$4,000. The seating capacity of the auditorium was 150. At about the same time, a frame manse was built on the same lots, directly south of the church.

In 1887, during the pastorate of Rev. A. T. Stewart, the interior of the church was remodeled, pews and furnishings renewed, and a pipe organ installed. In 1899, the auditorium was redecorated and an electric light system installed. The manse at 25 S. Ninth St., was purchased in 1903.

The church observed its 50th anniversary July, 1906, with a three-day celebration. A general assembly was held at which former ministers and parishioners gave congratulatory addresses, and a brief history of the founding of the church was given by Judge Wm. A. Marr, whose father, Rev. Phineas B. Marr, was one of the organizers.

For several years the congregation debated whether to remodel the church building, or build on a new site. In 1927, a plot of ground on N. Ninth St. was purchased from the P. & R. C. & I. Co., and on Aug. 5, 1927, the firm of C. H. Muhlenberg & Son, registered architects, Reading, was authorized to offer plans for a new build-

ing, and on Nov. 2, 1927, the trustees awarded the contract for its construction. The general contract for the erection of the building was awarded to Gordon Nagle, Pottsville. The lighting and fixtures were awarded to Robert J. Ward & Co., Phila.

The organ was installed by the Moeller Organ Co., Hagerstown, Md., and the electrical work and plumbing by Edw. Heinze, Jr., Ashland.

At the time of the building of the new church, Rev. Ernest Hansel was Moderator. The Board of Trustees: Thos. Rich, president; Frank W. Landefeld, Frank Goyne, Albert F. Goyne, Edward Heinze, Jr., Abner K. Walter, Wm. S. Rothermel, Harry Hunter, John J. Payne.

The Building Committee: Thos. Rich, chairman; Albert Goyne, Frank Goyne, Edw. Heinze, Abner K. Walter, Mrs. F. P. Weiser, Mrs. R. D. Heaton, Miss Margaret Davis, Mrs. W. Rothermel, Miss Isabel Hunter.

The cost of the new church, including furniture, lighting, plumbing and organ was \$69,000.

Chronology of Pastors

1858-1859, Rev. D. Barber; 1859-1868, Rev. R. C. Bryson; 1870, Rev. W. E. Honeyman; 1871-1874, Rev. J. L. Jenkins; 1875-1882, Rev. Jas. Robinson; 1883-1889, Rev. S. T. Stewart; 1890-1891, Rev. Jas. W. Williams; 1891-1895, Rev. Jas. F. Mann; 1896-1898, Rev. Francis S. Hort; 1898-1902, Rev. E. E. Lashley; 1903-1905, Rev. A. T. Schleich; 1906-1910, Rev. W. A. Clemmer; 1911-1915, Rev. George W. Leukel; 1916-1918, Rev. Newman Hess; 1918-1930, Rev. Ernest Hansell and 1930- . Rev. Jos. C. Dickson.

History of Reilly Township

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* March 7-15, 1935)

This history of Reilly Township has been compiled by the students of the Reilly Township High School. Some of the data has been gathered from old records, and a great deal of information contained therein has been obtained from several of the older residents of the township, to whom the High School is ever grateful, and the students wish to thank them for their invaluable aid in helping them work up this history of the township.

This work has been divided into a general history of the township as to organization, roads, schools, etc., then a more detailed history is given of each of the following villages: Branchdale, Newtown, Swatara and Blackwood.

Reilly Township was so named in honor of Bernard Reilly, one of the associate judges of this county. It was formed out of the southwestern part of Branch, and was laid out in 1856. It was surveyed by Saml. Fisher. Its present boundaries are: On the north, Foster and Cass, on the east, Branch, on the south, Wayne and Washington, and on the west Frailey. From north to south, it extends about four and one-half miles, and from east to west, about four miles, and contains about 18 square miles. Thru this township, all the coal veins known in the Mine Hill and Broad Mountain extend. For agricultural purposes, neither the soil nor the surface is generally well adapted. There are, however, some portions of the township where the ground is free from stones and otherwise tillable. No doubt the first settlers were attracted by the appearance of these spots, and located thereon, and began clearing with the intention of farming for a livelihood. Outside of the small patches used by the miners and working men as gardens, in and around the colliery villages, there is now within

the limits of the township, very little land under cultivation, the former clearings being abandoned, and some of them overgrown with scrubby pitch pines. The population of the township in 1860 was 2,900; in 1870 was 1,890, and in 1880 was 1,452, and in 1930 it was 1,752.

Public Roads

The date of the first road located in and passing through this township is not known. The first road leading into Fox's Valley connected with the Reading and Sunbury road at the house of Emanuel Jenkins (late Keffer's tavern) and passed between Tremont and Donaldson, and through the township to Pottsville. This road was never surveyed. It was first used as a log and shingle road, and was extended as necessity required.

The next road known as the Pottsville road, from Pine Valley in Hegins Township, extended over the Broad Mountain at Sherman's tavern, and passed through this township. It was never surveyed.

Simply located by jury, with but little alteration, it is used as originally located, intersecting the Tremont road at Newtown. Another

road was made from Tuckersville to Clouser's Mill in Branch about 1841. It passes through Swatara, Branchdale and Muddy Branch.

In 1926, the State of Penna. built a modern concrete highway through Branchdale, which facilitated greatly the traffic problem to Pottsville and other towns. The earliest intention of the Highway Dept. was to build the road from Newtown eastward by way of the Black Diamond, which would completely cut Branchdale off from any use of this road. When this became known, the motorists of the town, acting in conjunction with those of Minersville, began an energetic movement to have the road built, as provided for by Act of Assembly. Protest meetings were held, and a delegation, through the influence of several prominent citizens of the county, presented their objection to Gov. Pinchot, who directed that the highway should be built as first intended. Thousands of men were employed to do this work, which took up practically the whole summer of 1926.

Under the Pinchot Road Plan, mostly all of the dirt roads of the township are being taken over and modernized by the state. A new low priced type road has been built from Branchdale to Forestville, passing through School Row and York Tunnel. This road has added greatly to the comfort and convenience of motorists over the unpleasant conditions met with before its improvement. Where formerly one travelled over muddy and dusty roads, depending on the season of the year, today those facilities are accorded the traveler, which he pays for in his license fee and gas tax. Other roads of the township not taken over by the State are improved and kept in order by the P. & R. C. & I. Co. through a con-

tract entered into between them and the Board of Supervisors.

SCHOOLS

During the early history of the region, when Reilly Township was yet a part of the adjoining townships, some private and public schools were established. Tradition tells us that the first private school in the township was in the house of Wm. Gebert, and taught by a man named Peter Haupt. Only the German language was used in this school. The first public school was held in a small house belonging to Philip Gares, near what was once known as the Cross Keys Hotel. This school was opened about 1841 or 1842. The first building erected for school purposes was built about 1852.

Soon after the organization of Reilly Township as a separate unit of government, one of the first acts was to provide additional schools. The first meeting of the school board in Reilly Township was held Aug. 1, 1857. The records show that Patrick Brennan was elected president, and David Muir, secretary, at a meeting held Aug. 8, 1857. Some schools were already established in the township, while it was yet a part of Branch and Cass; one at the Black Horse, one at Muddy Branch, and one at either new Mines or School Row. It was arranged at this first meeting to rent a house for the rental of \$2.00 per week from Mr. Oliver at Swatara to hold school until a school building could be erected. For this rental, Mr. Oliver was obliged to furnish coal. At a meeting held on Aug. 17, 1857, the following teachers were elected: Patrick Gallagher for Swatara school; N. B. Reber for New Mines school; Jas. Foley for Black Horse school, and L. C. Rofseter for Muddy Branch school.

Edw. Connelly was appointed tax collector, and John Claude White became his bondsman. At a meeting held on Oct. 24, 1857, Patrick Brennan resigned as president, and was elected treasurer.

A meeting of the board held on Jan. 12, 1858, shows the following members present: Patrick Brennan, Michael Dolan and David Muir. It was decided to place an assistant teacher in New Mines school, and Robt. Wilson was elected to the position. The meeting of Feb. 26, 1858, showed the following members present: Patrick Brennan, Michael Dolan, Abraham Skelton, Jas. Coffey and David Muir.

At a joint meeting of the school boards of Cass and Reilly Townships held March 8, 1858, it was agreed that the children from York Tunnel be admitted to the school at Cottersville for the sum of \$12.70 per month, to be paid by Cass Township. New members appearing on the board at this time were Jas. Lynch, John Knowles, Luke Walsh and Wm. Maher. The attendance showed as follows: Jas. Foley, Black Horse, 35 pupils; Patrick Gallagher, Swatara, 66 pupils; Reber and Wilson, New Mines, 118 pupils; S. C. Rofseter, Muddy Branch, 20 pupils.

Two New School Houses

It was decided to build two new school houses, one at Swatara and one at Branch. The contract was given to Alter and Otto for the two school houses at a total cost of \$2,019.44. Luke Walsh became tax collector in Aug., 1858. The following teachers were appointed on Aug. 24, 1858: Thos. Holland, Black Horse school; Edw. Sheridan, Swatara; Patrick Gallagher, Branch; Robt. Wilson, New Mines. Michael Daniels was appointed assistant teacher at Swatara on Sept. 17, 1858. All salaries were \$35 per

month. New members of the board elected from 1858 to 1860 were Martin Fahey and Jas. Boner. By this time, the two new buildings were erected. Michael P. Butler and H. J. Kranson were elected new teachers in 1859. David Saunders was appointed a member of the board to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Martin Fahey. New members elected to the school board at various times between 1860 and 1870, were the following: Thos. Brennan, Michael Devaney, Edw. Connelly, Patrick Brennan, Patrick Mannion, Patrick Crowe, Patrick Manning, Jas. Golden, Daniel Doyle, Patrick Dooley, Vandeline Minnichbach, Robt. Weir, Jas. Cox, 1868; Michael Dolan, 1868; Peter Wunn, 1868; Fred Schmidt, 1869; John Meehan, 1869; Michael Sally, 1869; Jas. Cox, 1869; Michael Sally, 1870; David James, 1870; Wm. Hodgert, 1870.

New teachers elected between the years 1860 and 1870 were: A. J. Bear, Swatara; Margaret Quinlan to Branchdale school in 1861; Thos. Brennan, New Mines school in 1864; Thos. Donlen, New Mines school in 1865; Honoria Guinan, assistant teacher at Branchdale in 1865; Michael Walsh at Swatara in 1866; Dennis Doyle as assistant teacher at Branchdale in 1866; Edw. Doyle at Branchdale in 1867; Jane Cuniffe at Newtown in 1867; Maria Mitchell at Newtown in 1868.

A joint meeting was held at the house of Edw. Connelly by the school directors from Branch and Reilly Townships on Aug. 5, 1861, and it was decided that Reilly Township pay Branch Township the sum of \$34.35 that was due Branch Township since 1857. Reilly was represented by Messrs. Connelly, Boner and Devaney; Branch Township by Messrs. Wm. Hopkins, John Skencer and Hiram Chance.

In Aug., 1862, the school term was changed from nine to a ten month term, and remains so till the present time.

About 1863, the wages were advanced to \$45 per month, and in 1864 to \$55 per month.

New School at Newtown

A new school was erected at Newtown and opened in 1864, with Thos. Holland as teacher. At this time a half day's session was held on Saturday. The land was acquired from the Patterson Estate, and is the only tract for which the school board has a clear deed. The other school buildings were built on land owned by the coal companies.

A new school house was erected at Branchdale in 1867 and completed in 1868, at a cost of \$1,300, and the contractors were Geo. Dimmerling and Aaron Schilling.

The meeting place of the school board was moved from the house of Edw. Connelly at Branchdale, to that of Jas. Coffee in Upper Newtown.

The school board received its first state appropriation on Oct. 8, 1869, to the amount of \$205.50, and salaries were increased to \$60 per month.

During the decade from 1870-1880, the following new directors were elected: Wm. McNamara, 1871; Thos. Peters, 1872; Michael Reilly, 1873; Wm. Adamson, 1873; Thos. Coffee, 1873; Wm. Brown, 1874; John Monahan, 1874; Jas. Cochran, 1874; Michael Brosnahan, 1874; J. Brennan, 1875; Wm. Brennan, 1875; Patrick Cuniffe, 1876; John Jones, 1878; Robt. Grames, 1879; Alex Kelley, 1879; Lewis Withelder, Sr., 1879; Martin Brennan, 1879; John Stanton, 1879; Thos. Dougherty, 1880; Edw. Turley, 1880.

Among the new teachers who were elected to teach in Reilly

Township during the decade, 1870 to 1880, were the following; Michael Monahan, assistant teacher at Branchdale, Jan. 1, 1871; Mary E. Sally, assistant teacher at Branchdale, 1874; Mary Ann Brooks at Newtown, 1877; Julia Brennan, Branchdale, 1878; James Turley, Branchdale, 1880.

Seth W. Gear was the first solicitor elected for the school board of Reilly Township for the year 1873-1874. But previous to this, the boards were often obliged to seek the services of an attorney. Two dollars per day for work done around the schools was fixed as the wage paid.

On Feb. 13, 1875, a resolution was adopted to buy books for those children who were unable to pay for them. Salaries were raised to \$75 per month in 1875.

Scott and Crowe furnished the school supplies for the schools in 1878.

In 1878 the board failed to agree to elect teachers, and the following were appointed by the court: John Allar, Wm. Hodgert, Jas. Golden, Thos. Crowe, Thos. Garat, and Edw. Maloney. The board again disagreed, and the following board was appointed: John Graver, Thos. Conway, John Mitchell, Peter Zerbe, Peter Miller and Patrick McGovern.

Appleton's Readers and Butler's Arithmetics were adopted June 14, 1879. Chas. N. Brumn was elected solicitor this time.

Newtown school was burned down in Aug., 1879, and the board took immediate steps to build a new one. While the new school was being built, some pupils were sent to Swatara, and others were sent to a large room in an inn rented from Martin Zerbe. Alexander Kelley was sent to Pottsville

to arrange for the building of a new school.

The officers of the school board on January 1, 1880 were: Martin Brennan, Pres.; Thos. Conway, Secty.; Jas. Brennan, Treas; Michael McGann, tax collector.

The teachers at this time were: Thos. Brennan, Branchdale school; Thos. Donlen, Newtown school; Michael Monanan, School Row school; Thos. Holland, Swatara school; Julia Brennan, New Mines school; Mary Ann Brooks, Newtown school; Mary Sally, Branchdale school.

New directors from 1880 to 1890 were: Malachi Bohan, 1884; Thos. Dunlevy, 1884; Andrew Zernhelt, 1885; Patrick Lyons, 1885; Fred Schmidt, 1882; Jos. Raudenbush, 1882; Josiah Brown, 1882; Jas. McCarthy, 1883; Henry Withelder, 1886; John Stuart, 1887.

The new teachers at this time were: Anna Devaney, Newtown, 1881; Michael Devaney, Newtown, 1886; Mary McGann, New Mines, 1886. Wm. Wilhelm was elected solicitor in 1881.

Maps and globes were introduced for the first time in 1881. Webster's unabridged dictionaries were introduced in 1882.

It was decided to build a new school house at New Mines in 1883.

The auditors for the year 1883 were: Thos. Brennan, Patrick Holihan and Michael Conway.

A course of study was received from Co. Supt. Weiss, and it was put into effect in Sept., 1883.

In 1884, Jos. Raudenbush and Henry Withelder each received 90 votes for school director, and according to the law at that time, they were obliged to draw lots. Raudenbush was the lucky one, and became school director again for three years. Physiology was introduced into the schools in 1885. P. M. Dunn was elected solicitor.

First Night School

The first night school was opened on Oct. 1, 1885, for three months, and if enough pupils showed interest by their attendance, it was to continue. Michael Devaney was elected teacher at a salary of \$25 per month.

Slate blackboards were introduced into the schools in 1886. The foundation for a new school at Blackwood was laid in 1889, and the building completed in 1890. Later, another room was added, making it a three-room building.

During the decade from 1890 to 1900, the following school directors were elected: Archibald McDonald, Michael Brennan, Jos. Mitchell, P. J. McGovern, Wm. Reilly, John Brennan, Geo. Mealey, Patrick Holihan, E. J. Minnichbach, Chas. Schoffstall, Aaron Zerbe, Thos. Rowland and Thos. Brennan.

The new teachers from 1890 to 1900 were: Michael Brosnahan, Kate McDonald, Thos. Condron, Margaret Brosnahan, Dennis Dunn, Jas. Brennan, Harry Haag, Saml. Diener, Jas. Cuniffe, Kate Dooley, Wm. McGann, Margaret Foley, Margaret Berney, Margaret Crowe, Cassie Brennan and Jos. Noonan.

In 1896, some of the higher branches were introduced into the schools, although no central high school was established until 1907. The various studies introduced were: Algebra, Latin, Literature, Physical Geography, Civics and some bookkeeping.

M. J. Fleming served as solicitor at this time.

Between the years 1900 and 1910 the following new directors were elected: Jas. Walsh, John Campbell, Henry Zerbe, Jr., Robert Sterling, Jas. Brennan, Thos. Cresswell, Jas. Schoffstall, Thos. Hawkins, Philip McGovern, Frank Steinmetz.

New teachers elected during the same period were: Blanche Knau-

ber, Michael Brennan, John Holihan, Wm. Donlen, Cecelia Brennan, L. R. Withelder, Edward Murphy, Patrick McGovern, Mary Diener, M. W. Metzgar, John Sones, R. L. Roth, Ethyl Hawkins, Bertha Schoffstall, Ada Machamer, A. W. Zerbe, Mary Buckley, and Jos. F. Noonan, Jr.

Build High School

During this period (1907) a high school was erected at Branchdale consisting of two rooms at a cost of \$2,750. A steam heating plant was installed at the cost of \$807. About 1916 another room was added to this building. The pupils from Newtown and Swatara went to the high school by way of the old stage-coach plying between Tremont and Minersville.

During the period between 1910 and 1920 the new school code was adopted (1911) reducing the number of directors from six to five. Newly elected directors during this decade were: Wm. Dunlap, Jas. Frew, Conrad J. Ossman, John Conway, Fred Ossman, Wm. Graeff, Jas. J. Larkin, Geo. Withelder, and John Flaherty.

The newly elected teachers during this period were: I. E. Sausser, Elizabeth Mealey, E. J. McGuire, Wm. Brennan, W. J. Shore, Monica Ganly, Julia Holihan, Mary M. McGovern, Mary Stanton, Ella Connelly, Mary C. Brennan, Alice Conway, Jos. Ossman, Leo Minnichbach, Mary P. Brennan, Marguerite Dougherty, Margaret Larkin, Nellie Pryor, Jas. Daggett, Anna Birmingham, Jennie Reilly, Jos. Rountree, Claire Knauber, Mary Mitchell, Mabel Holwig, Elizabeth Gehres, Stella McGovern, David Thomas, Valeria Feeney.

Newtown School Burned

In 1916, the Newtown school house was burned and a new brick building was erected in 1916-1917. While this building was being completed the children from Newtown were housed in one of the rooms of the Swatara school and in the

basement of the Sacred Heart Church at Newtown. The new building consists of four class rooms and a directors' meeting room. The number of pupils attending the high school from different parts of the township increased gradually, and a separate vehicle had to be provided to transport the pupils. Geo. Stine, Fred Stine, Harry Kreise, Geo. Pothoring, August Delphias, and Thos. Larkin, Jr., at various times held the contract for transportation. An artesian well was sunk at Newtown school to the depth of 168 feet, but in sinking this well several coal veins were cut, and the water cannot be used for drinking purposes. The retirement fund system for teachers went into effect in 1919, but several employes did not avail themselves of the opportunity to join the system. During the "flu" epidemic of 1918, the schools were closed for six weeks.

Between the years 1920 and 1935 the following new directors were elected: Jos. Doran, Roy Appleby, Lewis Carroll, August Stine, and Harry Ossman.

The newly elected teachers during this period were: Herbert Frew, Jos. Gottschall, Lillian Roache, John Connelly, Martha Gauntlett, Helen Brennan, John Cavanaugh, Regina Larkin, Mary Golden, Henry Weir, Jr., Thos. Fitzpatrick, Jr., Mary C. Dormer, Regina Appleby, Anna Gehres, Thos. Golden.

Need More Room In High School

Due to the increased number of pupils resulting from the adoption of the three year course in the high school, the two rooms occupied by the high school were found inadequate, and in 1923 it was decided to build a modern high school. A bond issue was put forward by the Board known as the Bond Issue of 1923 and in thirty days the whole issue was subscribed. The architect for the building was F. X. Reilly of

Pottsville. The late Gordon Nagle of Cressona, was the contractor. The building contains ten class rooms, six on the upper floor and four on the lower floor, a large auditorium on the upper floor, various other rooms, a shop room, a room for art, printing, and mechanical drawing, several supply rooms, shower rooms, and a swimming pool on the lower floor. This swimming pool is kept open during vacation months. The building is heated by the John B. Nesbitt Universal System of heating. When the school became a high school of the first class in 1931, the science room was equipped to meet the highest standards for small schools required by the state department. A library was started in 1927 and now consists of over a thousand volumes. A mimeograph was purchased for the high school in 1929. Physical education and art were introduced in all the schools in 1928, and Miss Mary Muldowney became the first music supervisor in this year. Under her wise supervision music has become established for all time in the township schools. In 1929, the Branchdale Citizen's Band donated to the high school thirty-nine musical instruments, thus saving the school district several thousand dollars. The senior class of 1929 presented the high school with a piano. An athletic field was added in 1929.

The creek channel on the south side, of the high school was straightened in 1926 and then covered with concrete, thus making a better appearance to the school grounds.

In 1922 a new room was added to New Mines School.

Newtown Consolidated School

In 1928 Swatara School was closed and the children were transported to Newtown, thus making Newtown a consolidated school. In 1933 the pupils of the seventh and eighth

grades from all over the township were transferred to three rooms on the lower floor of the high school building and are now being gradually organized into a junior high school.

In 1925 on account of the dispute about the assessment in the county, the Reilly Township School Board was obliged to refund to the coal companies holding land in the township, the vast sum of almost \$80,000. A number of townships repudiated such refund, but Reilly met the issue and a special election was held to decide whether the Board should issue bonds to make this refund.

The result of the special election was as follows:

	For	Against
Blackwood	13	3
Branchdale	171	22
Newtown	108	13
	—	—
Total	292	38

The bonds were sold, and this bond issue was known as the Bond Issue of 1925. The School Board is paying off these bonds every five years, and has always met the payment of interest and also the redemption of bonds without fail whenever they became due and will continue to do so unless some one defaults in the payment of taxes allotted to the sinking fund in each year's annual budget.

Buses For School Pupils

In 1933, the Blackwood school was closed and in 1934, the New Mines School also was closed. The pupils from these schools were sent to the elementary schools at Newtown or Branchdale and to the high school at Branchdale. Since 1921 all transportation of pupils has been in modern school buses owned and operated by William Minnichbach, Sr. and Jr.

The Board of Education at present consists of the following members:

Roy Appleby, Pres.; Harry Ossman, Vice Pres.; August Stine, Secy.; Jas. Walsh, Treas.; Lewis Carroll, Member; John McGurl, Solicitor.

The teaching and office force is as follows: L. R. Withelder, W. A. Brennan, E. J. McGuire, John Connelly, Thos. Golden, Marguerite Dougherty, Mary M. McGovern, John Cavanaugh, Thos. Fitzpatrick, Jr., Wm. Donlen, Mary C. Brennan, Nellie S. Pryor, Mary Dormer, Elizabeth Mealey, Margaret Foley, Stella McGovern, Joseph Gottschall, Julia Holihan, Mary Mitchell, Mary P. Brennan, Anna Gehres, Ellen Zerbe, Regina Appleby.

Other officers of Reilly Township are:

Thos. Holland, Thos. Fitzpatrick, Sr., and George Gauntlett, Township Supervisors; George Gauntlett, Jr., Secretary Township Supervisors; Joseph Fitzpatrick, Treasurer Township Supervisors; E. J. McGuire, Solicitor Township Supervisors; Felix Bosick, John Polinchock and Sarah J. Bettinger, Auditors; Jas. Turley and Wm. Withelder, Justices of the Peace; Wm. Doyle, Township Assessor; Jos. F. Doran, Tax Collector; John Cavanaugh, Constable.

High School

In 1908 the first attempt to organize a high school was begun under the direction of Prof. Metzger with Prof. Jos. Noonan as assistant. This class graduated under the two-year course and consisted of eight members, one of whom, David Rowlands, gave his life in the World War.

The high school continued under the two-year course until 1915, with the following principals and assistants in charge at different times: Profs. Roth, McGuire, Fulmer, Zerbe and Sausser.

In 1915, Prof. Shore became principal with Wm. Brennan as his assistant. The course was then changed to three years. In 1919 Mr. McGuire became principal with Miss McGovern and later Miss Dougherty and Miss Holwig as assistants. In 1924, the Board of Education erected a modern building in which the high school is now housed. L. R. Withelder became supervising principal in 1926.

In 1930, the course was changed to four years with shop, music, art, and physical education being added to the curriculum. Among the faculty members to serve during this time were: W. A. Brennan, E. J. McGuire, John Connelly, Henry Weir, Jr., Marguerite E. Dougherty, Mary McGovern, Thomas Golden, Thomas Fitzpatrick, Jr., John Cavanaugh, and Wm. Smathers. The school can now boast of a band, orchestra, and chorus, which have taken part in many affairs in the county. During the Pageant conducted by the Schoolmen's Club in 1933 the high school was signally honored by having two of its pupils chosen to represent Miss America and Miss Schuylkill County, in the persons of Miss Betty Frank, '33, and Miss Claire C. Brennan, '34.

Since the first class graduated in 1910 there has passed through the doors of the high school 220 graduates. Included among these there is practically every profession represented.

Following is a brief list of some of the professions represented: teachers 47, doctors 5, dentists 4, lawyer 1, engineers 6, nurses, clerical 8, clergymen 5, theological students 4, nuns 2, newspaper 3, banking and insurance 3, stenographers 3, business 5. This compares favorably with any high school in the county. Like all others the economic conditions for the past four years have had a big bearing on the

recent graduates' chances for advancement.

Welfare Work

At the time of the closing of Otto Colliery at Branchdale by the P. & R. C. & I. Company in 1933, and the throwing out of work of hundreds of men, the need for welfare support was apparent.

An organization of the people was created to raise funds for the support of any needy families in the township.

The township was canvassed by selected committees, and over \$500 raised. A system of taking care of needy children was begun, which was wholly in the hands of the women.

For the purpose of carrying out the intent of the committee, the St. Mary Star of the Sea Parochial School and the basement of the Methodist Church at Newtown were used as headquarters. This work was carried on for several months until other means were found of aiding those people.

After the disastrous fire which swept Branchdale, May 1934, and rendered homeless several families, the local chapter of the Red Cross gave aid and assistance to those unfortunate families. Today, however, due to the policy of the State the need for welfare work among the people is not so pressing as formerly.

BRANCHDALE

Local history records that the first resident in what is now Branchdale, was a man by the name of Otto who settled and built a log house here. No evidence of the first home remains today, although the site is well known. Otto Colliery was named from this early settler. The first type of home built was made of stone. So substantial was their construction that many of them remain today in practically the same

condition as when originally built. Stone Row was given that name because the houses there were built of stone.

Dewartsville was a name formerly given, to what is now Branchdale. This name originated from a family that owned a great deal of land in this locality. The deeds of many property owners mention that their land is located in Dewartsville.

The town grew rapidly during the years, until at one time the population reached approximately 1,100 people. Gradually, the older homes were demolished and new ones erected in their place. So that today one finds homes of modern construction compared with the earlier type. Aside from the private homes, the P. & R. C. & I. Co. own the rest.

The name Branchdale originated from the location in which the town was built, being on a stream of water or branch of the Schuylkill River and also, in a valley or "dale."

The chief occupation of the people of Branchdale and vicinity since the earliest days has been mining. The character of work determined to a great extent the nationality of its people who settled here to gain a livelihood. The earliest settlers were mainly Irish, Welsh, English and Scotch. Those people came to America in great numbers during the middle of the 19th century and settled in the anthracite region. They were attracted here, mainly by the fact that mining was an occupation with which they were familiar at home. Also, by the fact that the earliest settlers wrote letters to their friends in the British Isles, painting for them a bright picture of conditions in America. The immigrants naturally would seek their friends in the mining regions in order to be with those whom they knew at home.

The descendants of some of those earliest settlers subsequently be-

came very prominent in the political and religious life of the county. As the tide of immigration from Southern Europe began to increase about 1890, Branchdale began to be populated by people from the Austrian Empire. Those were chiefly of the Slavish stock. They are energetic, thrifty and law-abiding people. Being unskilled in mining and unfamiliar with the language of the country their progress was much slower than that of the English-speaking people.

Mining continued to be the main source of income of the people until the abandonment of Otto Colliery by the P. & R. C. & I. Co. in March, 1933. Since that time the people by their own ingenuity have found a way of making a living that reverts back to mining in its infancy. Gradually as Branchdale grew and the system of education expanded the sons and daughters of the miners taking advantage of the educational opportunities prepared themselves for callings far removed from that of their early ancestors. Some of the names that are associated with Branchdale from early times are the Connellys, Weirs, Campbells, Turleys, Eltringhams, Stewards, Conways, McGoverns, Brennans, Duffys, Mealeys, Brosnahans, Caseys, and many others.

Ed. Connelly built and ran the Connelly House in Branchdale, for many years. It had a hotel, store, and the post-office was located there. This property is the largest in Branchdale containing over 20 rooms and at one time this family owned a great deal of land which was subsequently divided into lots and sold for homes. For many years all elections were held in this house.

The Field section of Branchdale was built up by people who erected their homes on lots purchased, when this property was disposed of. Another old landmark in Branchdale is the present home of John Stadnar,

the well known hotel man. This property, originally belonged to Robt. Weir, Sr., who conducted a hotel and store there for many years. Mr. Weir was one of Branchdale's earliest residents, who by his integrity and strict attention to business became a very prosperous citizen. For many years Mr. Weir was also post-master in Branchdale. Henry Weir, Sr., the present well known Branchdale business man, and Robert Weir, manager of the A. & P. Store, Minersville, are sons of the early settlers.

The Campbell House originally owned by John Campbell, who died recently, is another of the early public houses. Mr. Campbell conducted a hotel here for many years, and while in business always had the respect of all his patrons because of his strict adherence to the laws of his business. Mr. Campbell took an active part in the political life of the community. He served for several years on the Reilly Township School Board. This home is at present owned by David Thomas who still conducts a hotel here.

P. J. McGovern, at present one of Branchdale's best known business men, conducts his business in a property formerly owned by John Dormer, who for many years carried on a wholesale and retail liquor business in this property. Originally, this building was used as a store by Edmund Crowe, an early Branchdale family. Mr. McGovern has always taken an active interest in the civic affairs of the county and township.

Factory In Town

Aside from mining, the only industry the town had was a shirt factory operated by the Phillips & Jones Corporation. This enterprise at one time employed a large number of workers from surrounding towns. This source of income was a great financial help to the people as

it permitted them to enjoy more of the comforts of life and in addition furnished an opportunity for the female workers of the town to engage in gainful occupation. The closing and dismantling of this factory was a very severe blow to the town. Since then the workers in this line of labor have been compelled to seek employment in Minersville and Pottsville which necessitates a long day from home in addition to the uncertainties of transportation.

New Mines and School Row

In addition to Branchdale proper there are the villages of New Mines and School Row. New Mines gets its name from the fact that the second mining operation was done here. This village at one time contained quite a large number of people. It was here that the New Mines school was located in which some of the best known teachers of the township taught. Memory records that Thomas Condron, Minersville attorney received his early training in this school and, also taught here several terms. Other well known teachers were: Thos. Donlen, Jas. Brennan, and Dennis "Squire" Dunn.

School Row is located about one mile north of Branchdale. The houses were built in two parallel lines with a stone school house at one end, which probably accounts for the name of the village. Some of the families living there today have occupied the same homes for over a period of sixty years. Rev. John Mealey, the first of many priests who were born and reared in Branchdale was born and raised in this little village. He is a son of the late Patrick and Bridget Mealey. Other families that have lived there for many years are: the Brennans, Mealeys, McCauls, and Flahertys.

James Turley, an aged resident of Branchdale was and is at the present time one of its most progressive citizens. Mr. Turley was born at Branchdale and began to teach school in 1880, retiring at the age of seventy, after he had taught for almost half a century. He is at present a Justice of the Peace. Mr. Turley will always be remembered for his charitable spirit.

UNION ACTIVITIES

The first movement looking towards the formation of a local union to represent the miners of Otto Colliery, was made during the fall of 1900, when John Fahy, an international organizer, visited Branchdale, and through his efforts, succeeded in convincing the miners that their progress and improvement in matters of wages and working time, would be enhanced greatly by joining the United Mine Workers, whose officers were at that time beginning to enlarge their activities in the Anthracite Region. For many years this infant organization struggled along, but finally expired, due to the inactivity of its members.

Oct. 5, 1911, the present Local No 1936 was chartered by the International Organization, and at the first regular meeting, John McNamara, was chosen president, and John Holahan, secretary. This Local Union, at first, represented only the men from Branchdale, employed at the Otto Colliery. Persons working at Otto, but living in outside communities, were represented by their own home locals.

Subsequently, because of an order of the International officers, colliery locals were created to care for the interests of all men, and the home local idea was abandoned.

At first this radical change met with severe criticism on the part of the outside locals. They looked upon it as an attempt to absorb in an outside group the privileges, always enjoyed by themselves. Bitter controversies arose, particularly over the transfer of the monies held in the treasuries absorbed. Many of them refused to turn over their funds or surrender their charters until compelled to do so by orders of court.

Due to this unification plan, Local Union No. 1936 increased its membership to over 700 men. It continued to function effectively, under the guidance of its various officers, until the abandonment of Otto Colliery by the P. & R. C. & I. Co., Mar. 1, 1933.

Although Local No 1936 still continues to hold its charter, its active membership has gradually dwindled until today we find only a skeleton of what was once a live, active and powerful civic organization.

Mr. Fahy had been sent by President John Mitchell, to organize the miners of the Anthracite Region, and have them join the International Union. John Fahy in later years became president of District No. 9. Until his death he paid his dues and remained a member of the Forestville Local, one of the oldest in the whole Anthracite Region.

MILITARY RECORD

Reilly Township since its inception has taken a conspicuous place in the military history of the nation.

The names of many of its sons are engraved on the bright escutcheon of the Republic.

In all the wars in which the nation engaged since the days of '61, we find many men from Reilly Township offering their services to the call of the nation. During the Civil War, many of its sons enlisted

in the Union Armies, and fought in the most important battles of that war. They participated in the campaigns under McClellan, waged in the early days of the war, and were with Grant in the hammering campaign around Richmond, and they were with Sherman's Army in the famous March to the Sea. Two soldiers, Thos. Conway and David Weir, were among the unfortunates who were captured in battle and confined to various Southern prisons. Weir, with several companions, finally escaped from Andersonville, Ga., and after a period of harrowing experiences through hostile Southern country, finally reached the east coast of Florida, where he was picked up by the crew of a Union gunboat and finally landed in New York.

Conway, weakened from the terrible privations, occasioned by his imprisonment, was unable to follow his comrade in making his escape, and was compelled to remain a captive for six months until exchanged for Southern prisoners.

During the Spanish War, and also the Philippine Campaign men from Reilly Township enlisted for service, and participated in the Porto Rican and Philippine Campaigns. Many returned broken in health, after their services in an unhealthful climate, but no word of complaint was ever heard to pass their lips.

When the United States formally declared war on Germany, April 6, 1917, and the call to arms was sounded many "boys" from Branchday and Newtown immediately enlisted in the army. Gradually as the war was prolonged others followed in the footsteps of those who had gone before until the percentage of soldiers, according to population compared favorably with that of any other part of the nation. Those who went overseas fought gallantly in all the major engagements

in which American troops participated. They faced the Germans along the Marne, at St. Mihiel and were in the bloody fighting in the Argonne Forest. Two of them, David Rowlands and Vincent Devlin paid the supreme sacrifice on the heights of the Meuse and in the Argonne.

David Rowland, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Rowland, was a member of Co. B, 109th Inf., 28th Division. He went overseas with his division in the summer of 1918, and was killed on the morning of Sept. 6, 1918. June 1919, his body was returned to his mother's home in Branchdale, and from there was accorded the first military funeral in the township.

Vincent Devlin, son of John and Elizabeth Devlin, was attached to Co. D, 316th Inf., 79th Division. Fighting with his division in the Argonne Forest, he was wounded in action, dying Nov. 13, 1918. His body remains in France, being one of the many thousand buried in the American Cemetery at Romagne.

Reilly Township has the honor of claiming as one of its daughters Miss Cecelia Brennan, whose work during the World War as an army nurse in France merited the awarding to her of the Distinguished Service Medal by the Government of the U. S.

Miss Brennan graduated from St. Joseph's Hospital, Philadelphia, in the class of 1909.

After a short period of private work she joined the Army Nurse Corps, and was stationed in various hospitals in the United States, also in the Philippine Islands.

At the outbreak of the World War she opened Camp Upton with 3 nurses, which later became one of the largest cantonments in the U. S. Aug. 14, 1918, she left for overseas duty as Chief Nurse of Base Hospital 67. Returning to the U. S.,

May 22, 1919, she was assigned to duty at Camp Travis, Texas; subsequently to Army Base Hospital, Ft. Sam Houston and Post Hospital, Kelly Field, Texas.

While serving at Walter Reed Hospital, Washington, Miss Brennan underwent an operation, from which she died Jan. 20, 1924. Her body was brought to Branchdale, for burial and was accorded the highest military honors which her service in the Nation's cause deserved.

The Distinguished Service Medal Citation reads as follows: "Cecelia Brennan, Chief Nurse, Army Nurse Corps. For exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service as Chief Nurse of the Toul Hospital, Center France, during the World War. She contributed largely to the successful care of over 10,000 sick and wounded by her skillful, tactful and able direction of the work of the nurses at this Center."

War Veterans

The war veterans from Reilly Township are as follows:

Civil War Veterans: Jas. Wilson, Hugh Gallagher, Geo. Roudenbush, Jas. Kilraine, Thos. Woods, Thos. Conway, Daniel Conway, Wm. Devine, John Thompson, David Weir, John Campbell, Thos. Goldsworthy, Nathan Kessler, Henry Knauber, Claude White, John Stein, Patrick Cuniffe, George Huth, Archibald Dunlap, R. Moffett and Michael Devine.

Spanish American War Veterans: Jacob Huber, Lewis Knauber, and Oscar Kessler.

World War Veterans: John Machamer, Vincent Devlin, Leo Daggett, Henry Minnig, Wm. Thompson, Bernard Connelly, Eugene McGuire, Chas. Brown, Thomas Thomas.

Francis Kilraine, Alphonsus Gottschall, John Gottschall, David Rowland, Eugene McNamara, Cecelia Brennan, Albert Allar, Wm. Brennan, Chas. Mitchell, Henry Weir, Jr., Martin Cuniffe, John Roache, Edw.

Roache, Emil Minnichbach, Leo Minnichbach, Raymond Seiger, Roy Seiger, Herman Seiger.

CHURCHES

St. Mary Star of the Sea Church

The first Roman Catholic settlers, of Branchdale, found it necessary to travel to St. Vincent de Paul's Church, Minersville to hear mass. Each Sunday these hardy pioneers would travel through the woods by the way of Phoenix Park to Minersville. When the Catholic population increased, Branchdale became a mission. Mass was celebrated in the Ancient Order of Hibernian's Hall with Minersville priests officiating.

As years passed by the population grew larger. Some energetic members of the Mission realized the necessity for the establishment of a church.

Immediately, a controversy resulted as to where the church should be located. Two factions formed—one demanded that the church be located opposite the present public school, the other faction demanded that it be established on the present site. The faction favoring the site opposite the public school was forced to acquiesce when it was found that large coal measures were to be found underlying the proposed site. Contractor Daniel McGurl, of Pottsville, was awarded the contract for the erection of the edifice. The cornerstone was laid in May, 1886.

Great crowds from outlying towns thronged to Branchdale on the day of the dedication. Before the completion of the dedication exercises a terrific rainstorm broke loose, scattering the throng to all corners. It was estimated that ten thousand people were in the town that day.

Father Beresford was in charge during the early history of the Church. The Church was called St. Mary Star of the Sea.

The first child to be baptized in the new church was Mary Gottschall, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gottschall. The first wedding to be performed was that of the late George and Mrs. Annie Mealey.

In 1900, the present parish was established with Father Vincent Corcoran as pastor. During Father Corcoran's years of service the present rectory was built.

Father Corcoran was succeeded by Father Wm. Kelly. During Father Kelly's incumbency many additional improvements were made to the church and the rectory. Father Kelly was succeeded by Father Hugh Trimble—he, in turn, was succeeded by Father George Shay. Father Shay cleared the debt on the church during his pastorate. Father Cornelius O'Brien succeeded Father Shay. During Father O'Brien's time the Parochial School was built by Contractor Bastress. The school is conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph. The present pastor, Father A. Paul Lambert has been at St. Mary's for the past two years. Many improvements have been made since his coming. The church is being remodeled at the present time. New altars of early liturgical style have replaced the former altars. The church itself is beautifully done in Romanesque style.

St. Mary Star of the Sea Church has sent many sons and daughters into religious life. Its first son was Father John Mealey now stationed at Philadelphia. On March 4, 1935, he was the celebrant at a solemn high mass, assisted by his nephew, Father Mealey as deacon and Father Wm. Flynn as sub-deacon. Dr. Carrol McCormich, a nephew of Cardinal Dougherty, preached the sermon.

Roman Catholics of Irish, German, and Slovak extraction make up the congregation at the present time.

Methodist Church

The Methodist Church at Branchdale was originally called the New Mines Union Sabbath School Association. This was so known because some of the members belonged to the Methodist and others to the Baptist Churches.

The ground upon which the church is erected was obtained from the Manhattan Coal Co. The deed conveying the property was signed March 11, 1874. The church was erected by Ezra Cockill in 1875. The first preacher to serve the congregation was Rev. Richard Kaines. The congregation numbered about 50.

The first Board of Trustees included: John Cowly, Andrew Given, Jas. Patton, Wm. Muir and David Weir.

During the years several auxiliary organizations were formed to carry on and further the work of the church. Among these were: Ladies Aid, Christian Endeavor and Sunday School.

Since the beginning of the church many prominent Methodists of Branchdale have served as officials. Among those were: Samuel Kingston, Alex Scott, S. C. Kirk, Henry Bailey, Thos. Bond, Robert Stewart, Jos. Roudenbush, Wm. Bond, Wm. Finley, Robert Moffett, Thos. Rowland, Sr., and John Thompson. The above names appear on the application for a charter and amendments subsequently added.

Citizens' Fire Company

The Citizens' Fire Co. of Branchdale was organized Aug. 5, 1920. Fire had threatened the town on several occasions, and due to the distant location of effective apparatus and almost impassible roads, the need for a local company was urgent.

The initial meeting was held in the A. O. H. Hall and seventy-seven members enrolled. T. B. Brosna-

han was elected President with Thos. C. Brennan, Vice President; Joseph Doran, Recording Secretary; Chas. Davison, Financial Secretary; and Geo. Williams, Treasurer. The appointed trustees were: John H. Withelder, Wm. Dunlop, Sr., Jos. Murphy. Thos. Rowland, master mechanic, was elected fire chief. His assistants were: John Stadnar, Michael Brennan and George Smerko.

The company grew rapidly in members and financial responsibility, and on Aug. 20, 1923, purchased their first fire truck. The number of fire hydrants was increased, and the people felt a new sense of security from fire.

Thos. C. Brennan succeeded Mr. Brosnahan as president and Henry Weir, Sr., became treasurer. A very successful drive for funds enabled the company to erect a permanent and serviceable building. It contains an engine room, social hall and large basement. A wide pleasant veranda fronts the highway. The location is excellent, being central, and at the junction of roads leading to all parts of the town. Soon after the purchase of the truck two major fires occurred. The first and most serious was the burning of the mule stable at Otto Colliery. Later, the boiler house caught fire, but due to prompt and efficient work, the fire was controlled. Besides innumerable smaller blazes, the company participated in fighting many out of town fires.

A new, larger, and fully equipped truck was purchased July 10, 1929. Auxiliary equipment including extension ladder, chemical pump, and new hose was included in this purchase.

Since the first charter president, the progressive company has been under the leadership of two able men: Henry Weir, Jr., (who served from April 9, 1930, to Jan. 12, 1932, when he resigned to accept the

more active post of fire chief), and Harold Gauntlett, who is now serving. During the latter's term, the new and long needed siren was installed.

Probably the most memorable event in the annals of the local company was the great fire which swept through the town May 7, 1934. This fire, a direct result of the careless cutting of the timber and disregard of the waste brush, razed ten homes and left many families homeless and penniless. The sensible work of the fire company assisted by eleven departments from other places saved the town from complete demolition. An indication of what might have happened is seen in the neighboring village of Blackwood, where the colliery and entire town was burned.

NEWTOWN

Lands and Early Settlers

It has now been undisputably established that the first settlers of what is now known as Newtown were the Zerbés. Peter Zerbe, after whom Zerbe Post Office is named, was a resident of Berks County, and in 1824 took up a tract of land in Schuylkill County.

In the summer of 1827, with his two sons Jacob and Peter, Jr., he came over the mountains from Berks County to make improvements on these lands and built the first log house in Newtown on a piece of land now owned by Theodore Zerbe and directly north across Donaldson St. from Kessler's Hotel. They then returned to Rehersburg, Berks County, and in September, 1828, started with their families in two four-horse teams for their new home. They reached Pinegrove at noon. They kept on and in the evening reached what is now known as the Minnich House in Tremont. The women and children were tired out and put up for

the night at this inn, but the men kept on until they reached the cabin they had built the year before. They found everything in good shape and the next morning returned to Tremont and brought the rest of the family to their new home; and thus began the settlement of Newtown. Soon after, another log house was built about three hundred yards west of the Zerbe cabin, by a man named Confair, but Confair went away and left nothing but his dilapidated cabin. Another log house was built around the year 1830 near what is now the Graver House, but no record can be found as to who owned or built this cabin.

Outlying Settlements

Tradition tells us that in 1811 John Bretzius with his family, accompanied by some neighbors, came from over the Blue Mountain Valley in Wayne Township with several loads of household goods, built a tent, and then erected log houses to make their homes. Afterwards they built a one and one-half story log house and kept a tavern there. Bretzius was succeeded as landlord by Philip Gares; Gares by Daniel Tobias, who built the Black Horse Hotel, which he kept for many years and was succeeded by Benedeville Witmer, Abraham Evans, Thomas Evans, and John Graver. A private school was opened in one part of this building or in another building close by. At present, nothing remains of these once important habitations. Such places as the "Cross Keys", Foley's Farm, Sherman's Farm and Philip's Farm once produced large crops by those who engaged in farming. A large hotel or inn was also located at the "Cross Keys."

It is a lamentable fact that a great deal of the original tract of land belonging to Peter Zerbe and his ancestors was taken from them in

some manner or other. Real estate companies and the greed of coal companies was responsible for the loss of some of the land. Other parts of the tract were lost on account of the poor education of these pioneers. Laws concerning holding of lands and taxation thereon were not understood until some others had seized some of the tracts.

Influx of Immigrants

After the establishment of the first log house by the Zerbes, several other such log houses were erected between the years 1824 and 1840. One of these was built by John McGinty and Jas. Roache, who along with Thos. Gallagher were among the pioneer railroad builders in the locality. These three men were employed in the construction of what is now known as the Middle Creek Branch of the Mine Hill Railroad.

The famine in Ireland and the political rebellion in Germany which occurred between the years 1840 and 1860 resulted in a great influx of immigrants to the United States, and the building up of the present village of Newtown and Upper Newtown or Tuckersville began during these two decades. The opening up of the coal mines in this locality attracted most of these immigrants, although many acres of land were cleared and small farming and gardening occupied the leisure time of the people.

With the purchase of land by these thrifty inhabitants, homes were erected, and each individual owned his own home, in contrast to the neighboring village of Swatara, where there were three double rows of houses, built and owned by the coal companies. And since the building of these homes by individuals meant the foundation of a new village, the name New Town was gradually accepted and yet pre-

vails, although the post office was called Swatara and later changed to Zerbe.

The Map of 1857 drawn by Samuel Lewis of Pottsville, listed the following as owners of tracts of land in Newtown and Upper Newtown or Tuckersville: James Roache, John McGinty, Chas. and Henry Nichols, Philip Haupt, Matthew Dugan, Benj. Argust, Jacob Kulp, John Myer, John Mitchell Conrad, John and Henry Ossman, Ezra Brooks, George Armbruster. Wm. Adams, Fred Freud, Luke Walsh, Patrick McChristle, Anthony Zernhelt, Sr., Christ Wonn, Abe Shoffstall, Levi Adams, Samuel Maury, Nicholas Baum, John Adams, John Frey, Fred Schmidt, Henry Withelder, Sr., John Bettinger, Wm. Fluch, Peter Zerbe, Jos. Zerbe, Martin and Henry Zerbe, Emil F. Buddie, David Thomas, Wm. Walsh, Wm. Maher, Martin Sullivan, Edmund Reynolds, Wm. Owen Donahue, Jas. Welsh, John McDonald, Jacob Detrick, Vandeline Minnichbach, Jas. Coffee, Patrick Dooley, John Meehan, Thos. Dougherty, Ellen Delaney, Joseph Briggs, and Wm. Jones.

This same map of 1857 shows a tract of land 150 feet front and 290 feet deep as set aside by the Patterson estate for a public cemetery. It also shows another tract 150.4 ft. front and 289.8 feet deep set aside as a place for the erection of churches. The place designated as a cemetery was located on Pine St. about 200 feet east of the location of the present school building; and the one designated for church buildings was located on Swatara St., on the top of the hill leading to the Jos. Briggs Estate.

Most of the land has now passed into different hands, but the descendants of some of the original owners still hold the tracts occupied by their ancestors.

The lands and properties of Jas. Coffee, Thos. Dougherty, John Meehan, Patrick Dooley, Henry Zerbe, Sr., Martin Zerbe, Anthony Zernhelt, Sr., Peter Zerbe, Jos. Zerbe, Wm. Adams, and Henry Withelder, Sr., are held by the descendants of those who improved the lands and built homes thereon.

The Zerbe Square

A plot of ground 231 ft. by 231 ft. was known as the Zerbe Square. On this square was built one of the first houses, and it remains standing and in good condition at the present time. It contains thirty-four rooms, and was built to accommodate the farmers enroute from the Hegins Valley and the Pinegrove Section, who were obliged to "put up for the night" with their wagon loads of produce. This property passed into the hands of Henry Knauber, Sr., deceased and is now occupied by his son, Henry Knauber, Jr. The Allar House was built by John Bettinger, a few years previous to the Zerbe Inn. This passed into the hands of John Allar, Sr., and thence to John Allar, Jr., both deceased, and is now owned by a real estate dealer of Minersville.

The Kessler House occupies the lands that once belonged to Abe Shoffstall and John Zerbe. It was built by Nathan Kessler, a Civil War Veteran, and during the past year has been remodeled and improved and is now one of the most up-to-date restaurants and hotels in Western Schuylkill County. The land owned by John Myers is now in the hands of the Gardners and John and Albert Bettinger. The John Adams Estate now belongs to Peter Huth, Sr., likewise the estate of the Frys is now owned by Mrs. Geo. Ossman, Wm. Withelder, and Chas. McGovern.

The Nicholas Baum property is now held by Charles Withelder,

that of Benjamin Argust by Thomas Roache and Joseph Abary, the lands of John Adams by Wm. Shadle, that of Wm. Fluck by John Zernhelt, that of Christopher Wonn by George Withelder, and George and Lewis Bettinger, that of Patrick McChristle by Arthur Bettinger, that of Wm. Jones by Wm. Renninger and Ella Birmingham, that of Frederick Freud by the Stines, that of Ezra Brooks by the Kachura family, that of Mrs. Davis by David Oswald, that of David Thomas by John Blamey and that of Emil Buddie by Frank and Henry Zerbe.

In Upper Newtown, the estate of Wm. Maher is now held by Philip Stine, that of Martin Sullivan by Mrs. Jno. Cullen, Sr., that of Owen Donahue by the Thomas Dougherty family, that of Vandeline Minnichbach by Karl Yonish, and that of Edmund Reynolds by the Ganly family, Mrs. Celia Walsh, and John Hamershy, Sr.

It is said that the home now occupied by Mrs. Celia Walsh was the first house built in Tuckersville or Upper Newtown.

Occupations

The only source from which the people of Newtown and the surrounding localities could derive a livelihood was in the coal mines. But in addition to this, Newtown has many small farms and gardens. These are highly cultivated and among those who have produced prize crops and taken great interest in gardening are: Frank Zerbe, George Gauntlett, Sr., Fred Stine, Albert Bettinger, Wm. Minnichbach, Karl Yonish, and the Kachura Family.

Since the coal mines furnished the main source of employment, at several times various inhabitants started small mines in this locality before all the land was absorbed by the big coal companies. Anthony Zernhelt at one time operated what

is known as the Little Breaker Colliery, situated along the railroad to Swatara and not far from the Joseph Briggs Estate, now owned by Susan Lewis.

The Roache family of whom Mary Ann Bettinger is the only survivor living in Newtown, opened a mine at what is now known as Dundas and shipped coal from this drift. The coal was hauled in carts from the drift to the P. & R. Railroad going to Tremont. Adam Ferg operated a saw-mill at Ferg's Landing, and near this place a drift was driven by a man named Stewart on the vein which is now the main source of the coal supplied by the Indian Head Coal Co.

The Fager Ridge Colliery, commonly known as the "Flicker," was first started by individuals, one of them being a man named Kendricks, some time in the nineties, and later was taken over by the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. The breaker was enclosed on three sides. The breaker boys suffered untold hardships in such a makeshift building. Robert Hillhouse was the inside foreman and John Diener was the breaker boss. A terrible explosion took place in 1893 in which four men were killed, Alfred Miller and Jim Lewis from Newtown, and Tom Ward from Branchdale, and a man from Llewellyn. Soon after this explosion the colliery closed.

The Indian Head Colliery now in operation, is located midway between Newtown and Tremont. It employs about 250 men, 17 of them being from Newtown. A slope was sunk on the north dip and a breaker erected in 1933. The veins being worked are the same as those that were worked in the old Silverton Mine near Llewellyn. The present out-put is about 700 tons a day. Much more development is needed to make this a successful operation. The company has leased all of the Pardee lands in Reilly Township

and also much of the land owned by the Lehigh Valley Coal Co.

In the main the people of Newtown were usually forced to seek employment at operations located some distance from their home.

In 1916, Fred Stine erected a building for a factory, and for several years it was operated by the Lebovich Bros., who also had a factory in Donaldson. But on account of labor troubles the factory was closed, the machines were removed, and the factory has now been changed into a building suitable for two families.

In 1856, Allen Fisher opened a small colliery in the Sharp Mountain. John Allar, Sr., was the foreman. Not proving remunerative, this colliery was abandoned.

CHURCHES

Sacred Heart Church

In 1896, the cornerstone of the Sacred Heart Church was laid at Newtown. The day on which this occasion took place witnessed the largest crowd present in the history of the town. Rev. Peter Masson was the pastor and he was instrumental in bringing this first church to Newtown. The St. Anthony's Society was organized to aid in the work. Among those who took a prominent part in building this edifice were the following: Philip Bettinger, E. J. Minnichbach, Wm. Minnichbach, Sr., Jos. Schmidt, Frank Baker, Mrs. Kathryn Stine, Andrew Zernhelt, Sr., Frank Steinmetz, John Allar, Mary Ann Burkhardt, Peter Huth, Sr., John Dietrick, Fred Ossman, Conrad F. Ossman, John Stine, Sr., Albert Bettinger, Sr., Thomas and Michael McGann families, Mary A. Redmond, Matthew Stanton, Thos. Dougherty, Sr., John Cullen, Sr., the Ganly family, the Dooley and O'Rourke families, John Mitchell, Michael Monahan, and Jos. C. Noonan.

The Lorenz family of Tremont and the families of Michael Kachura, Isadore Delago and Jas. Corona were also ardent helpers in this cause.

The St. George's Society was organized in 1916 and has quite a number of the parish in its membership. The present pastor is the Rev. Vincent Hildebrandt.

St. John's Reformed Church

The St. John's Reformed Church at Newtown was organized in 1898 under the direction of Rev. Wm. Stoyer. He labored unceasingly until this structure was erected and was assisted by the families of Lewis Withelder, Sr., (deceased), Jos. Abary, Schuyler Adams, Wm. Shadle, Conrad J. Ossman, Henry Ossman, John Ossman, Mrs. David Crossman, Mrs. Jacob Miller, Fred Withelder, Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson, Mrs. Herbert White, Mary J. Withelder, Mrs. Mary Shadle. The St. Matthews Society, organized in 1897, and the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Reformed Church were largely responsible for financing the cost of this building. Several renovations to beautify the structure have been made since the completion of the original building. Rev. Chas. Wetzel is the present pastor.

Methodist Church

The Methodist Church, now consisting of but a few members, was formerly the Methodist Church of Swatara. When the village of Swatara dwindled to but a few residences, it was decided to move this building from Swatara to Newtown and this was accomplished without any damage to the church. Those who were responsible for bringing this church from Swatara to Newtown were James Argust, Harry Adams, Kathryn Ossman, Susan Lewis, Archibald Kelley, James Richard, and Hugh McCloy. This church has been called the "Little Church Built by Faith." The mem-

bers had three dollars in their treasury to begin with, but before dedication eleven hundred dollars had been paid on the building, and the remainder has been paid off in full.

WAR RECORDS

The Civil War

Among those from Newtown who answered the call to the Civil War were the following: George J. Huth, who had the splendid record of serving three years and nine months out of the four years of Civil War. He served with Burnside and Grant in the Army of the Potomac and with Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley. He took part in a great many engagements and was wounded several times. He died at the age of eighty-five.

Henry Knauber came from Germany during the Civil War and immediately enlisted in the Union Army in 1863. He fought with Grant and was severely wounded at Petersburg. After the war he worked in the mines and later on purchased the Zerbe Inn which is now known as the Knauber House. His courage and indomitable spirit remained with him until his death at the age of 75.

John Stine enlisted in 1864 and was with the eastern army until the close of the War.

Patrick J. Cuniffe was another veteran of the Civil War. He was incarcerated for a long time in a Southern prison.

Wm. Adams served as a wheelwright with Sherman's Army.

Nathan Kessler enlisted in the summer of 1863, and was sent to the Union Army in Tennessee and for a time was with Rosecrans' Army around Chattanooga. He became a cavalry man, and the year 1864 saw him serving under Sherman in his great drive to again split the part of the Confederacy that remained.

He was with Sherman until that general was far on his way to the sea, and then under Wilson he took part in Wilson's great cavalry raid through northern Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi. He was present at the capture of Jefferson Davis, and often told the story of how he looked in the wagon and saw Davis seated there with his wife. He was the original owner of what is now the Kessler estate. He died Dec. 29, 1934 at the ripe old age of 93.

Spanish American War

Oscar Kessler and Lewis Knauber enlisted in the regular army and served for three years during the Spanish American War. After serving a short period in Cuba, they were sent to the Philippine Islands. They took part in numerous small engagements in subduing the savage tribes of the islands. Lewis Knauber died several years ago, but Oscar Kessler still survives and lives with his sister at Newtown.

World War

The following took part in the World War: Albert Allar, Charles Mitchell, Martin Cuniffe, "Biddle" Brennan, and Herman Stine. Brennan, Cuniffe, Allar and Mitchell saw service on the battlefields of France at St. Mihiel and in the Argonne. Albert Allar died from appendicitis several months after his return from France, on account of shock received during the war, thus preventing his power to recuperate. Martin Cuniffe is now employed by the U. S. Government. "Biddle" Brennan works for a business concern in New York. Charles Mitchell resides at Newtown and is among the leading citizens. Edward and John Roache and Edward Meegan also saw service in France. Michael Kachura served with the American Army in France, for a period of about ten months.

Martyr of Science

Dr. Jas. J. Cuniffe, a resident of this community, while not engaged

in a war where man destroys man, gave up his life in the great effort to save humanity from the ravages of a certain disease. He was born in Swatara, attended the public schools and took advantage of night schools as well, and taught for several years in the township schools. He then went to the Medico Chirurgical College at Philadelphia, and after four years of hard study, graduated at the head of his class. He then went to a hospital at Columbus, Ohio. He immediately engaged in research work, and to learn more about the dreaded typhus, he volunteered to go to Mexico and enter a hospital where only such cases were treated. His years of strenuous work in preparation for his life's vocation had probably left his power of resistance somewhat diminished, and he fell a victim to the dreaded disease and died.

Labor

Newtown has always been loyal to the cause of labor, and during all the labor disturbances, which occurred since the time of the foundation of this village, not one from Newtown can be found who deserted this cause. The first organization to which the miners belonged was the old W. B. A., and later in the eighties, to the Knights of Labor. In 1900, Organizers Fahy and Dougherty visited Newtown on a Sunday night in Sept., and organized the first local of the U. M. W. of A. in this locality. The local was known as No. 1636, U. M. W. of A. Thos. Brennan, of Greenland, was chosen president; Lewis Scheerer, secretary, and Chas. Schmidt, treasurer. The local continued under various officers, and later under a new number (Local 2085) until the colliery locals were established, and Newtown was then merged with the local at Branchdale.

Post Offices

The first post office was established at Swatara in 1847, when L. M. Gage began to carry the mail in a stage-coach running from Pottsville to Tremont. Later, it was moved to the home of Frank Coffey in Tuckersville, or Upper Newtown, and remained there for many years. In 1905, Henry Zerbe became postmaster, and it was at this time the name was changed from Swatara to Zerbe Post Office. Other postmasters and postmistresses at various times were Frank McGovern, Harry Kreise and Kathryn Ossman. The present postmistress is Mrs. Susan Lewis.

Fires

Newtown has been visited by few fires because of the homes being built far apart. A school house was burned down in the eighties, and another on Ash Wednesday, 1916. The history of the Newtown schools will be included in the history of the township schools. A fire destroyed the home of John Kelly in Upper Newtown, and a few years ago, the home of Herman Frank, in the same place, was destroyed from an overheated stove. The house of Mrs. James Roache was destroyed by sparks from an engine going to Middle Creek. But the greatest fire in the history of the town was the burning of the large hall and hotel belonging to Joseph Schmidt in 1897. The loss was estimated at from five to six thousand dollars.

Skilled Mining Men

Newtown sent out several men skilled in mining, viz., Wm. J. McGann, foreman at Blackwood Colliery for several years; John Cullen, now a member of the con-

tracting firm of Cullen and Hadesty; Geo. Minnichbach, for many years superintendent for the Jeddo Highland Co., at Hazleton, and Henry Sterling, assistant foreman at Burnside Colliery.

PLACES AND PERSONAGES

At present there is but one general store in Newtown now owned by Mr. and Mrs. George Withelder. It was formerly the property of the Diener family who conducted a business there for many years.

In 1926, Frank Zernhelt erected a large building on Tremont St. along the state highway, and this place is now one of the leading hotels of Newtown.

The Graver House, for many years conducted by Benjamin Gardner, is located in the southern end of the town.

On a triangular plot of ground between the three roads leading past the Allar House, the Knauber House, and the home of Henry Zerbe, there was once located an Old Blacksmith Shop. The ownership of the land was often a matter of dispute, and the old shop is remembered by the older folks of today.

The "Middle Creek Railroad" was once a place of great interest. Sunday evenings saw many couples walking up and down this particular promenade, leisurely passing away the time.

"The School Hill" was another place where many of the folks assembled and talked and gamboled on the village green. Here was located the baseball field for many years until the state highway cut this field in twain.

The "Crossing" was the scene of many a game of marbles and quoits

by the young and old, and some of the games resulted in furious fist fights of the contestants.

John Meehan of Upper Newtown, left here about 52 years ago and entered the employ of the government. At one time he was sent to Alaska. Later he returned to Brooklyn, New York, and became an inspector for this city. He is at present an alderman in this metropolis.

Mary McGann, now Mrs. Peter Devlin, a former teacher of the township schools is now a resident of Philadelphia.

Miss Kate A. Dooley, also a teacher of the Township schools is now living retired in Upper Newtown. Miss Dooley taught for over forty years and was a most efficient teacher.

The Michael Monahan family, who lived here for more than 50 years became residents of Tremont several years ago. Michael Monahan began to teach school in Reilly Township in 1871 and most of his time as a teacher was spent in the Newtown School. He retired at the age of 70. He was greatly respected and under his guidance many proficient scholars were sent from the Newtown schools. His daughter, Mrs. Mary Allar is a teacher in the Tremont schools, and his son, Thos. V. Monahan, is District Superintendent of the P. & R. C. & I. Co.

Dr. Leo Knauber, a former resident, graduated from the Keystone State Normal School and taught school for a few years. He then entered the Jefferson Medical College at Phila. and after completing the course in medicine, located at Tower City. He then went to Williamsport and at the present time is the leading surgeon in one of the hospitals of that city.

The Diener family, former residents of the town are now living in different parts of the country. Miss Mary Diener taught for sev-

eral years in the township schools and is now a supervisor in the Minersville Borough Schools. Miss Anna Diener is employed in the Educational Department at Harrisburg. The two sons of the Diener family have entered the business field, Samuel Diener in New Jersey and John Diener in Oakland, Calif.

Wm. A. McGann taught school for many years in the township and is now Supervising Principal of Norwegian Twp. Schools.

The Noonan family, former residents, with the exception of two sons, have become a family of educators. Joseph C. Noonan, the father, started to teach in a rural school in the Mahantongo Valley and for many years taught in the Reilly Township Schools. He afterwards moved to Tuscarora in Schuylkill Township and is now Supervising Principal of the schools of that district. Dr. Jos. F. Noonan graduated from the Millersville State Normal School and taught in the Reilly Township High School for several years. He then went to Herndon and later to Rahway, New Jersey. He graduated from New York University with honors and is now Superintendent of Mahanoy Township Schools. James J. Noonan graduated from Millersville State Normal School and New York University and is employed in the Schuylkill Township Schools. Mary Noonan graduated from the Millersville State Teachers College and the Lancaster Business College and engaged in the teaching of commercial subjects. She was commercial teacher in the Tamaqua Schools for several years and is now employed in the same capacity in the Philadelphia schools. Francis Noonan graduated from State College and is now a teacher in the St. Clair Schools. Leo Noonan is employed as a clerk for the P. & R. C. & I. Co. John Noonan is the owner of a ranch in Southern California.

The Geary family are now residents of Phila. Dr. Russel Geary graduated from the township high school and entered the University of Pennsylvania, and after finishing the Medical Course, located in New Jersey and is now practicing his profession there. Dr. Theo. Geary was in the same class as his brother, Russel, graduated at the same time and is now a surgeon in Phila. Miss Mildred Geary became a nurse and Kathryn Geary entered the teaching profession.

Earl "Sparky" Adams, son of Edward Adams, succeeded in what is the aspiration of every baseball player, that is, to become a member of one of the major league teams. He started his career on the old baseball field on School Hill, went to the Blue Ridge League, and at various times was with the St. Louis Cardinals, the Chicago Nationals, the Pittsburgh Pirates, and at present is one of the Cincinnati Reds. He had the honor of playing in two World's Series and acquitted himself creditably.

Thos. Argust, a former resident, is now living at Pottsville. At the time of the World War he was living with his father, James Argust, at Lindenhurst, Long Island. He enlisted in a New York Division and saw service in France, being gassed in one of the operations on the Western Front.

The Allar family, residents for a long time, are now living elsewhere. Wm. Allar employed by the Westinghouse Co. and brother, Anthony, are living at Lindenhurst, Long Island. Anna Allar, now Mrs. Thos. Fleming, is a resident of Philadelphia, and Gertrude Allar, now Mrs. Wm. McGann, resides at Marlin.

Among the residents of the present time who entered the nursing profession from the town are: Theresa Kachura, now located in a hospital at Reading; Edith Abary, in a

hospital at Harrisburg; Leona Huth and Mary Oswald, in Philadelphia hospitals; Lola Irving in a New York hospital and Lillian Ossman, now married.

Among those who entered the teaching profession and are teaching outside of the district are the following: Mary Hamrosky at Beckville, Schuylkill Co.; Mabel Holwig, at Wyomissing; Isabel Zerbe, Art Supervisor of Pottsville Schools; Alma Boyer in the Pinegrove Twp. Schools; Anna Birmingham, Gladys Withelder, Myrl Withelder, now Mrs. E. J. Greene, in the schools of Delaware County; Lena Zerbe in the schools of New Jersey, and Elizabeth Abary in the schools of Atlantic City.

Etta V. Dougherty, daughter of the late Martin and Margaret Dougherty was a resident of Newtown. Leaving Newtown at an early age she went to Philadelphia and engaged in dressmaking. Becoming interested in charity work, she entered the convent and received the habit as a Daughter of Charity of St. Vincent De Paul at the Motherhouse in Emmitsburg, Maryland. She worked incessantly among the poor until her death occurred at a very early age.

Henry Zerbe, Sr., now 85 years of age, and a descendant of the original settler of Newtown, is the oldest living resident of the village.

Theodore Zernhelt graduated from the Reilly Township High School and located at Allentown, where he is now Assistant Superintendent for the Fleischman Yeast Co. in the Allentown District.

Miss Mary Gehres, now Mrs. Wm. A. Brennan, taught for several years in the New Mines School.

John Patterson was one of the town boys who saw service in the World War.

SWATARA

Swatara is located about a half mile north of Newtown on the Swatara Creek and about the same distance south of that well known object of interest, the Swatara Falls. Before the mines took away some of the water flowing over the falls, it was visited each year by hundreds of tourists. A visit to these falls at present is never a matter of regret. The water rushes over an almost perpendicular precipice of about 35 or 40 feet and when the creek is swollen, the roaring waters can be heard a mile and a half away.

Swatara was once a flourishing village of four long double rows of houses built by the mine owners. The interest of the people was entirely in mining and several slopes and drifts were operated at different times by different individuals and companies. There were three coal breakers erected here, and two washeries in or near this now rapidly declining village. It is said that as early as 1830 coal was mined near the Swatara Falls. About 1850, Samuel Fisher or Howell Fisher opened and operated the Swatara Colliery. This breaker was located at what is known as the "Old Basin." Two men, John B. McCreary and Jas. Gilfillan built a breaker on the south side of the highway and operated a mine there. We often hear the older people of today speak of the only remaining culm banks of Swatara as "Gill's Banks", and of a row of houses, two of which remain standing, as "Gill's Patch." A man named Yerkes became interested in the mines about Swatara, but in the Chicago Fire of 1871, Yerkes lost all his capital and was forced to abandon his interest in the mines in this locality.

Later another breaker was built and a slope driven, and this colliery was successfully operated by

Brown and White and by Mr. Hewett and John Claude White. Later it passed into the hands of the P. & R. C. & I. Company, and was abandoned over 50 years ago. During the period from 1915 to 1923 hundreds of thousands of tons of coal were retrieved from the culm banks around Swatara. This was the coal of smaller sizes from earlier operations, at which time only the larger sizes were salable. The inhabitants of Swatara were mostly Welsh, some English, some Scotch Irish, and in the part of Swatara known as Greenland, they were nearly all of Irish extraction.

Had Two Churches

Swatara at one time had two churches: the Welsh Baptist Church, which was built of stone gathered from the surrounding hillsides and which had a small cemetery located at the church, and the Methodist Episcopal Church which was a frame building of a later date.

Prominent Residents

Jonah Williams operated a dry goods and grocery store at Swatara for many years. His family moved to Pottsville, where his son, George, was Superintendent of the Transportation System until the new day of buses arrived.

John F. Walsh, a former resident of Swatara, was a member of the Legislature. He later became a mine foreman and moved to Shamokin, where two of his sons became doctors and another, a lawyer.

Thomas Richards became Jury Commissioner of Schuylkill County in 1895. He died before his term of office was completed.

John F. Brennan entered the mines at an early age and took several courses in the Scranton School of Mining. He became assistant foreman at Otto Colliery, and for the past ten years or more has been Inside Superintendent for the Pine Hill Coal Company.

Wm. Bowle has charge of the plumbing department of Pottsville streets and highways.

John J. Cuniffe, a member of the Cuniffe family worked in the mines for several years and went to Philadelphia where he is now in charge of the Freight Department of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Thomas Walsh, a former Swatara resident, is now employed in the Post Office of Philadelphia.

Had Two Hotels

Swatara at one time had two hotels, that of Alex Griffiths and that of Joseph Briggs.

The home of Major White was once the admiration of almost every one. It was fashioned after an English Manor House and was built among the surrounding oaks and elms that had withstood the growth of centuries. And it is only within the last two years that these great trees have given way to the woodsman's axe. Major White enlisted in the Civil War as a private and rose to the rank of Major. His entire time in the army was with the Army of the Potomac, and he saw hard service. He was severely wounded, and in later life the result of these wounds seriously handicapped the Major.

This once prosperous mining village has dwindled now to five frame buildings. Among the inhabitants of prosperous days were the Browns, Frews, Kelleys, Richards, Meehans, Boochans, Parrots, Williams, Griffiths, Beveridges, Morgans, Sterlings, Davis, Bowles, the Cuniffes, the Walshes, the Brennans, the Parnells, the McQuillians, and the Stantons.

BLACKWOOD

Blackwood, now an almost deserted mining village, lies within the confines of Reilly Township and close to the Mine Hill Branch of the Reading Railway. It once con-

sisted of five double rows of houses and at one time had between 400 or 500 inhabitants. Long before the main village was erected by the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. coal had been mined by the first settlers, the Woods family. The first tunnel was known as Woods' Tunnel. This was driven by the Woods, and the coal hauled down the mountain and loaded in cars on a siding of the Reading Railroad. The Woods sold out their interests to the Lehigh Valley Coal Company and from that time on all operations around Blackwood were under the direction of that company. The Schoffstalls came to Blackwood shortly after the Woods and for many years produced splendid crops on the farm near the Reading Railroad Station. But the Schoffstall boys entered the mines when the Lehigh Valley Coal Company built the first breaker in 1889 and drove what is known as the Big Tunnel.

Three tunnels, Woods' Tunnel the Big Tunnel and Dundas sent coal to the new breaker and large shipments were sent to market from this colliery. During the depression of 1897 the mines closed down and most of the people moved away. Robert Fischburn was Superintendent while the colliery was in operation and A. J. Minnichbach was Mine Foreman. Several others connected with the first operation at Blackwood were: Al. Kellar, now Chief Burgess of Minersville; Geo. Wolfe, Lewis Scheerer, Levi Holwig, Bob Harris, Jim Boothan, The Fowlers, Geo. Metz, Jimmy Whitehead, Robert Hillhouse, Jos. Abary, Michael Kachura, and Jas. Cazoni.

The Lehigh Valley Railroad Co. built a branch line from Lizard Creek Junction to Blackwood and over this line all the coal was shipped.

In 1904, the coal company razed the old breaker and built a new one

farther up on the mountainside. And again this somnolent village filled up as in the previous years with inhabitants of many nations. Besides the English, Irish and Germans there were a great many Tyroleans and Slavs included in the population. The three tunnels were again in operation and Blackwood again became a prosperous village. Frank Schedd was superintendent of the mines, and he was succeeded by Ralph Mortimer. E. J. Minnichbach was mine foreman until illness forced him to resign for a time. Wm. J. McGann and John Cullen also held this position at different periods. Roy Honeback and Harry Diamond were outside foremen.

Once Had Two Churches

Blackwood had two churches, the Roman Catholic Church, which was built almost entirely by the parish priest, Rev. Chas. Saas, and a Protestant Church, known as the Union Church. A company store was located near the centre of the village. The Blackwood Schools are discussed under Reilly Twp. School heading.

A shaft was sunk from the top level of the breaker to the Big Tunnel and in 1916-1917 and 1918 another lift was sunk on the shaft and a slope also from the upper workings. Steel timber was used in this lower level and it seemed as if

Blackwood Colliery was about to develop into a large operation, but in 1919 it was closed down and remains so at the present time. About three years ago the breaker in some unknown manner took fire and was burned to the ground. A wind carried the sparks to the village. Almost the entire town was destroyed. Only two buildings remain standing. One is occupied by John Krause, the other by Jos. Seiger, Jr. Jos. Seiger, Sr., occupies the home that was known as the superintendent's home near the Reading railroad.

While the mine was in operation the timber required was furnished by James Schoffstall and Elwood Schoffstall, two brothers, who erected a saw mill and cut the timber from the surrounding lands.

The Minnichbach family remained in Blackwood until the death of E. J. Minnichbach. His son, Emil, is leader of an orchestra in Reading. The family moved to Pottsville where another son, Leo, a World War Veteran, and teacher of the Blackwood schools for several years, took up the study of music, and is now at the head of the following school bands: Pottsville, Blythe Township and Frailey Township.

Emil Minnichbach, Raymond Seiger, Roy Seiger, and Herman Seiger served their country's cause during the World War.

History of Hegins Township

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* March 16-27, 1935)

The northwest part of Schuylkill County, when it was formed in 1811, comprised Upper Mahantongo and Lower Mahantongo Townships, the dividing line being the Mahantongo Mountain. Lower Mahantongo Township included the territory between the Mahantongo Mountain on the north and Pinegrove Township on the south. In 1840, the southern part of the township was formed into Porter Township. This left the beautiful Hegins and Lykens Valleys and a large area of rich coal land under the name of the original township. When land beyond the Blue Mountains and Pinegrove Township became more expensive, the rich lands of the Pine and the Deep Run Valleys of Lower Mahantongo Township attracted them. The region was known as "Das Schonen Rine Fal," the beautiful Pine Valley. The extent of mineral wealth was unknown and did not interest the pioneer settlers. They were farmers and were lured into the region by the rich soil and abundant game. The valleys and mountain sides were covered with dense forests of oak, pine, spruce, beech, maple, chestnut, hickory and other varieties of trees. "Where the oak grew tallest, there the soil is the richest," was the guide for the selection of a site for a settlement. The early settlers generally made their settlements near some spring. The work of clearing the forest and building log-huts began. Settlements sprang up all over the territory. Later, these scattered settlements were connected by roads and community life began. There is no evi-

dence that the Indians had any permanent settlement in this territory, but the numerous places where Indian arrowheads and tomahawks are found point to the undisputed fact that they did make temporary encampments here. Long after the first white settlers came into the valley, a lone Indian lived in a stone house on what was later the Valentine Savidge farm at Hegins.

There is limited reliable data available of the early white settlers prior to 1811. There were, no doubt, scattered settlements soon after the Revolutionary War. By 1800 we find the Boyers, the Klingers, the Kuntzlemans, the Osmans, the Bresslers, the Dingers, the Stutzmans, the Ottos, the Diedrichs, the Bixlers and the Heberlings as land owners and settlers.

The tax duplicate for 1811, the first year of Schuylkill County, contains the following names as living in Lower Mahantongo Township: Jacob Bixler, Peter Bixler, Jacob Bressler, Michael Bressler, Jacob Dinger, George Dinger, Peter Dinger, Frederick Dinger, John Dinger, George Dietrich, John Dietrich, John Holdeman, Jacob Heberling, Michael Kessler, John Kuntzelman, Philip Kuntzelman, Henry Kuntzelman, William Otto, Peter Stutzman, Christian Stutzman, Michael Schwartz, Isaiah Schwartz, and Abraham Schwartz. Some of these lived in the part of Lower Mahantongo Township which afterward was formed into Porter and Hubley Townships. Nicholas Reigle was the county tax collector. The tax rate was 2 mills, and the tax collect-

ed from each person ranged from 2 cents to \$2.

The tax duplicate for 1820 contained, in addition to those of 1811, the names of James and Philip Osman, Philip Reed and Benj. Bassler. The total tax collected in the township that year was \$298.66, on an assessed valuation of \$120,831.50. This was for what is now Hegins, Hubley and Porter Townships. Assessed valuation of these townships for 1934 is \$8,314,028.

In 1830, we find the additional names of Daniel Fidler, Daniel Gable, George Haberacker, George Huntzinger, Joseph Huntzinger, Daniel Kessler, John Holdeman, John Schropp and Valentine Savidge.

Thinly Populated In Early Days

The census of 1820 gives the population of Lower Mahantongo Township as 837. Probably less than 300 lived in the present territory of Hegins Township. They were a happy and contented people. Surrounded by mountains with roads over them that were barely better than foot paths, they seldom came in contact with the outside world. Save a few "store goods", they raised all they needed, and consumed all they raised. Carpenter and blacksmith shops were found on most farms. Those sturdy pioneer Pennsylvania Germans were not only good farmers, but they were good mechanics, making their own farming implements and household furniture. They shod their own horses, made and repaired the harness and did all the varied work which now requires a score of expert workmen. There were, however, a number of specialists in the township. The hides of the steers, sheep and calves were taken to the tanneries of William Hoff, George Ressler, E. G. Ressler, George Huntzinger and Hiram Kimmel, where they were tanned. The leather was taken to the shoemaker

who took the measure for the shoes and boots of the members of the family. Often the shoemaker went from house to house and stayed for a week or ten days at each place until each member had his "one pair a year." Happy the youngster that could sport a pair of red-top boots. Among the early shoemakers of the community were Peter Reed, Abraham Reed, Solomon Otto, Emanuel Huntzinger, George Dinger, George Engle, Isaac Engle, Jacob Morgan, Michael Reed, Daniel Carl and Daniel Bixler. Daniel Shadle, Jacob Heiter, Mr. Stutzman and Mr. Bressler were hatters. The half dozen tailors of the township did little more than take the measure and "cut the goods." The women of the houses did the sewing, all of course, by hand. Jacob Bressler, Peter Fehringer, Peter Minnich, Daniel Shuey, Joseph Bixler, Henry Carl were among the dozen or more blacksmiths. Daniel Gable and Godfrey Raybuck were expert masons. Of house and barn carpenters there were many. Benjamin Snyder, Henry Schucker and Jacob Schucker were builders of mills; and Jacob Miller and Jacob Wolfgang were wagon makers. William B. Otto was a coffin maker one hundred twenty years ago. He used to say that when he heard the sound of the saw and the plane in a dream then there would be a death in the community within two weeks. Jacob Artz and Michael Wolfgang were gunsmiths.

Grants Changed Hands

Although the State granted patents to tracts of land of only from 100 to 300 acres to one person, yet many speculators acquired title to large tracts by buying the titles to a number of smaller tracts from the original "patentees" or at Treasurer's and County Commissioner's sales. The largest tract owned by one person at one time in the present Hegins Township was the Wit-

mer tract containing 5616 acres and included the southern part of the valley, from the eastern part of the town of Hegins, to the western part of Valley View, a distance of about three miles. This tract was originally granted to Flour, of Reading, in 1751, who, however, never settled it. In 1811 William Witmer, of Reading, acquired it, and sold it in small tracts to settlers. John B. Otto, of Reading, in 1835, was assessed with 4204 acres of land in Lower Mahantongo Township. This included a great part of the Mahantongo Mountain.

Name Changed to Hegins Township

As stated above the present Hegins Township at the formation of Schuylkill County was a part of the large Lower Mahantongo Township. In 1840 the southern part of this large township was formed into Porter Township, named in honor of Hon. Robert Porter, the first president judge of Schuylkill County. In 1853, the western portion of the remaining Lower Mahantongo Township, from the boundary between Upper and Lower Mahantongo across the valley to the foot of the mountains on the south, was erected into Hubley Township, named for Associate Judge Hubley. There were no settlers in the mountain section, and the petitioners for the new township were ignorant of the enormous mineral wealth in those mountains. What remained of the original Lower Mahantongo Township was still known, in 1854, by that name; but by Act of Legislature, Feb. 9, 1854, the name was changed. The Act reads as follows: "That from and after the passage of this Act, the name of Lower Mahantongo Township, in Schuylkill County, be and the same is hereby changed to that of Hegins Township, and that hereafter all general, special and township elections shall be held at the house of J. G. Renn, in said

township." (The Renn house was the place of the present Hegins Hotel.) The township was named for Hon. Charles W. Hegins, of Sunbury, first elected Judge of the Courts of Schuylkill County under the constitutional amendment of 1850. Prior to 1850, the judges were appointed.

Abraham Sherman had a tavern at the foot of Sherman Mountain on the road from Hegins to Newtown, now Route 125. He petitioned Court to have his farm, which was in Foster Township, annexed to Hegins Township. The request was granted, Jan. 30, 1858, by not only annexing his farm of a few acres to Hegins Township, but the entire western part of Foster Township.

Township 13 Miles Long

As now constituted, the Township has a length of 13 miles, from the top of Sherman Mountain on the east to the Dauphin County line at Bear Valley on the west; and a width of four miles from the top of Broad Mountain on the south to the top of Mahantongo Mountain on the north; and an area of about 30 square miles. Within its area is found some of the richest farm land in the County, cultivated by some of the best farmers in the State. In 1845, the historian, speaking of this territory, said "The valleys and hillsides are productive, having a soil of red shale—amply repaying the labor expended on its improvement." What a delight it would be to the prophet-historian of 90 years ago, if he could come back and see broad acres of wheat and corn and large fields of potatoes, orchards of the finest fruit, garden truck of every kind, dairy herds and poultry farms, and the farm homes supplied with all modern conveniences. In addition to the rich farm land the coal deposits in the thirteen miles of mountain land of the Township are among the richest in the anthracite field.

As late as 1860 there were twelve saw mills along Pine and Deep Creeks. All of them have disappeared with the forests, the trees of which these mills converted into building material and mining timber. The remains of the mill dams may be seen. At the close of the eighteenth century a grist mill was built at Rausch Gap where the grain of the farmer was ground into meal and flour for which the miller received his "mulder," about one-eighth of the grain. This mill has long ago been abandoned. Kessler's, Dunkelberger's, and Schrope's mills on Deep Creek, built at a later date, are still in service. Only the first, however, uses water power at present.

ROADS

The earliest maps of this section indicate the Tulpehocken Trail crossing the southwestern part of what is now Hegins Township, at Kohler's (Rausch) Gap. Another road extended from Millersburg on the Susquehanna through the Lykens Valley and the Pine and Deep Creek Valleys and connected with the Reading-Sunbury road near Taylorsville. Another road crossed the Mahantongo Mountain, then across the valley near the town of Hegins and up the Broad Mountain and connected with the Tulpehocken road near Joliett. Every few miles along these highways were taverns for the accommodation of travelers. Here the teamsters would stop and have their horses watered by the hostler while the drivers would patronize the bar. The hostler received the "tips" as his pay for cleaning out the barrooms and doing odd jobs around the place. When night came on, the horses would be unhitched, taken to the shed, or stable, fed the grain that the owners carried. The teamsters often carried their own provisions and bed-

dings. After an evening of jollifications, the beddings would be spread on the barroom floor and the sleepers would "retire for the night." The remuneration of the landlord was the sale of whiskey and cigars. The innkeepers, in 1840, were Nicholas Adams, Abraham Hoffa, Daniel Weist, Joseph Osman, John Bixler and Peter Bressler.

The present system of highways of the township is adequate for the accommodation of all the inhabitants, with very few miles of useless roads. Two roads extend through the entire length of the township from east to west. Routes 25 and 125 form the main highway. The Mountain running parallel to main road is about a mile north of it. These, together with seven roads running north and south, connecting them, give nearly every inhabitant an outlet by public road. Four roads over the Broad Mountain make connections with Route 209. The improved road over the Mahantongo Mountain connects the Mahantongo and the Hegins Valleys; and both the mountain road and the road over the Little Mountain connect with the Deep Creek Valley road to Ashland and the Mahanoy Valley. Route 125 from Newtown to Hegins, where it connects with Route 25, gives direct route from Pottsville and the East to Millersburg and the West.

As stated above the population in 1820 of the territory now comprised in Hegins Township was about 300. From 1820 to 1860 Hegins Township had a steady growth in population. In 1870 the population was 1,154. By 1900 it had increased to 2,177; and by 1910 to 2,727. The census of 1930, gives the population as 3,489.

VALLEY VIEW

Valley View was formerly known as "Osmantown," named for Joseph

Osman, who in 1827 was the pioneer tavern keeper at the place. The town was also known as German-town. The early post office at the place was called Lower Mahantongo and mail arrived once a week. In 1873, the village had forty houses, including the hotels of Elias Dilfield and David Daniel, the stores of J. K. Updegrave and Lewis Artz and the wheelwright shop of Jacob L. Wolfgang. In 1874 the name was changed from "Osmantown" to Valley View, named because of its visibility from all parts of the valley. The present population is about 1,600. The people live in 300 beautiful houses, modern in design and construction, with every convenience of running water, electric light, telephone, etc., afforded to people of large cities.

There is at least one dealer of each kind of merchandise needed by the people of the community. A partial list follows: Clothing store, Samuel W. Starr; General Merchandise, Homer F. Miller, James E. Miller, R. F. Harner, Samuel Paul; Hardware and Plumbing, Robert S. Bossler, Ralph Schwalm; Lumber and Building Material, T. W. Hepler, Ira Erdman; Garage and Automobiles, Calvin Header, John Laudenslager, Palmer Reed, Ray Miller, C. R. Weist, Oscar E. Smith; Meat Market, Charles H. Miller, Theodore Klinger; Dairy Products, L. A. Kimmel; Bottling Works, Lloyd Bowman; Hotel, Brooke Bressler; Restaurant, Harry Nye, Charles Daubert, Leroy Shuey, L. A. Kimmel; Bakery, R. P. Morgan; Drug Store, Lynn M. Gable; Jeweler, Glen Malich; Blacksmith, George Koppenhaver; Shoe Repairing, Frank Blyler, Daniel Schlegel; Painting and Paper Hanging, Paul Schrope; Electric Supplies, Oscar Miller; Bus Service and General Hauling, A. P. Bowman, Ira Schlegel; Barber Shop, Raymond Straub, Ray Minnich, Ray Kehres; Sign Painting, Robert

Schrope; Timber, Earl Williams; Funeral Parlor, A. R. Buffington, H. E. Miller; American Store, Geo. Straub; A. and P. Store, Ray Masterson; Print Shop, J. Melvin Bolton; Electric Shop, Ray Miller. Drs. H. S. Dunkelberger and I. E. Sausser look after the physical welfare of the people, and Dr. G. F. Zerbe is the dentist. The three ministers of the churches described in another part of this history live in the town.

INDUSTRIES

The Citizens' Manufacturing Co. of Valley View employs about 100 women in the manufacture of dresses, pajamas and other wearing apparel. T. W. Hepler is manager.

The Valley View Shoe Co., Inc., has its own building and employs about twenty persons, in the manufacturing of slippers and shoes. Russel Reider is manager.

The Valley View Shirt Factory began operating about 1900. It manufactured clothing for the United States during the World War. It was known as "The Kuntz Textile Company." Later it was sold to Bob and Goldfarb, of New York. At present the firm manufactures zipper jackets, underwear, pajamas and camp suits. It employs about forty people.

New Lines of Activities

Farmers are experimenting in new lines of activities. Many tried melon farming on a commercial basis, but it remained for Charles and Ralph Miller to make a success of it on a rather large scale. For the last five years they have had from eight to twelve acres in cantaloupes and watermelons and have produced large and delicious fruit, for which they find ready market. Other farmers also have been successful in raising these fruits, which had been regarded as suited only for warmer climate and sandy soil.

Irrigation is one of the latest experiments. Successful plants have been installed on the P. H. Updegrave farm and by Lloyd Snyder, James Lucas and Mr. Zerbe. H. W. Trautman has a greenhouse where all kinds of plants and flowers are grown for the local market.

Town Has Theatre

The Midland Theatre, a motion picture house was built by P. H. Updegrave about fifteen years ago, at the site of the first free school house in the town. In 1935, it was purchased by Robert Bossler, who will remodel it.

Fire Company

The Valley View Fire Co. was formed, and charter granted Sept. 20, 1922, for the purpose of maintaining and supporting fire engines, hook and ladder and other equipments and devises for the control of fire. The charter is perpetual. Among the charter members were John E. Herb, Harvey Klinger, Victor E. Ney, Ellsworth Harner and Chas. H. Schoffstall. The company is managed by a board of three trustees. The first trustees were Chas. H. Schoffstall, Richard Smith and Harry Hepler.

Valley View Park Association

As early as 1880 the beautiful grove at Rausch Gap on the Valley View-Good Spring road was the "picnic ground." Here the Sunday School "celebrations" were held. Here annually the people of the community had a Saturday holiday. A free-for-all-table of the choicest food was set by the women of the congregations. Later, the Schwalm reunion continued the time honored custom of providing a sumptuous feed for all. Other religious and social gatherings were held in the park. In 1923, Reverends Mentzer, Apple, and Lehman, of the local churches, and others formed the Valley View Park Association, and

leased additional ground from the P. & R. C. & I. Co. Later additional land was secured. At present the Association has 56 acres of woods and cleared land. A large pavilion, eating stand and restaurant have been erected. Baseball diamond, tennis courts, children's playground, trap shooting and other amusement features have been provided. The Park is the home of the annual Valley View Home Coming.

Camp 109, P. O. S. of A. Valley View

Camp 109, P. O. S. of A., was organized Feb. 17, 1869. The following were the charter members: C. I. Laudenslager, Wm. R. Bressler, Ed. Haine, G. W. Moyer, W. M. Ney, David Moyer, A. K. Schwenk, Thos. Rickert, Louis Hepler, Simon Young, R. R. Renn, Simon Yoder, Serenes Harvy, Peter Harvy, Geo. Wolf, C. B. Hoffman, Isaac Wolf, Isaac Rumberger, Aaron Wolf, Daniel Wolfgang, J. H. Bressler, J. J. Laudenslager, Beneville Moyer, Moses Hain, D. S. Klinger, James Solida, Chas. Martz, John Herb, Jacob Herb, J. H. Baum, Wm. S. Kinkle, P. H. Updegrave, David B. Faust, W. H. Fisher and Percival Carpenter. The place of organization and meeting was at Schwenk's Hall, at Rausch Gap. It was started soon after the P. O. S. of A. movement began as the Junior Order of Sons of America.

At the first meeting the following officers were elected: Pres., C. I. Laudenslager; Vice Pres., L. D. Hepler; Master of Forms, C. A. B. Schwenk; Recording Secy., Isaac Rumberger; Asst. Recording Secy., Cornelius Hoffman; Conductor, Ed. Haine; Financial Secy., Thos. Rickert; Treas., Isaac Wolf; Inside Guard, Simon Yoder; and Outlook Guard, George Wolf. Later the meeting place was changed to the Lodge Hall on the third story of what is now Homer Miller's store.

On Feb. 29, 1896, the president was authorized to appoint a committee to devise plans to build a new lodge hall. The committee appointed was: P. H. Updegrave, L. D. Hepler, Elias Underkoffler, Jacob Moyer, and T. S. Rickert. Henry Umholtz was appointed architect, and Daniel Wolfgang, builder. The building, which is the present home of the Lodge was erected in 1897. During the existence of the camp for sixty-six years, it has paid out many thousands of dollars in sick and funeral benefits. Its membership has risen and fallen during this time, and at present is sixty.

The following are the present officers: Past Pres., I. A. Williamson; Pres., Geo. S. Scheib; Vice Pres., Ray Schreffler; Master of Forms, Albert Blyler; Recording Secy., Albert Boyer; Treas., Robert Bossler; Financial Secy., Percival Boyer; Conductor, I. E. Williamson; Inspector, Allen Koppenhaver; Guard, Leo Underkoffler; Chaplain, Robert Bossler; Asst. Secy., V. E. Ney; Right Sentinel, C. N. Bateman; Left Sentinel, Clayton Shomper; Trustees, I. E. Williamson, Geo. A. Scheib, Allen Koppenhaver. Park Committee, Robert Bossler, C. N. Bateman.

Fountain—(Stutzman Town)

Fountain is a small village in the eastern part of the township at the foot of Sherman mountain. It has thirty-eight houses. By the early settlers it was known as "Tumble-town." The first post-office was established in 1874, when the town received its present name. Wm. A. Stutzman was the postmaster and the office was in a small building on his premises. In 1892 the post-office building burned down, and Richard Bressler became postmaster and he moved the office to his store across the street. John W. Shadle was the last postmaster. On Dec. 1, 1905, rural delivery went into effect from the Hegins office for this com-

munity and the office at Fountain was abandoned. The first hotel near the village was the Abraham Sherman tavern at the foot of the mountain. (The water trough east of Fountain, on route 125, marks the place.) The old inhabitants tell us that here the following prices prevailed: whiskey, 3 cents a drink, and 12 cents a quart; and cigars, five cents a "grab."

William Stutzman also kept a hotel for many years in the brick building now owned by Monroe K. Savidge. The bricks for this building were made and burned at Fountain. Fountain has its own water system from a reservoir supplied by copious mountain springs.

Lamberson

Lamberson is a village of twenty houses at the foot of the mountain on the Good Spring road. It was named for Capt. Lamberson, of Tremont, who was P. & R. C. & I. Company policeman at the time the town was laid out in 1888.

HEGINS

The village of Hegins was known as "Renntown" prior to 1854, when the name was changed to correspond to the new name for the township. Like nearly all other towns, it had its beginning with a hotel. J. G. Renn was the proprietor of the hotel and store located at the site of the present store of J. M. Willier and the Hegins Hotel.

The town was of slow growth prior to the opening of Good Spring Colliery in 1888. In 1875 it contained the hotel and store of J. F. H. Long, the Reformed parsonage, the Evangelical Church, the Friedens R. & L. Church, and the residences of J. B. Otto, Mrs. Reed, John Bressler and David S. Artz. Today the village has a population of approximately 1,000, the people living in 190 houses similar to those of Valley View.

The town has two hotels, Ed. Woomer's and Frank Hentz's; and five general stores—J. M. Willier's, Clark S. Maurer's, Masser's, C. F. Otto's, and Lloyd Geist's. C. Raymond Artz has a meat market and Thomas E. Herb, a bake shop. The Hegins Auto Co. and the Keystone Garage have both storage and sales rooms. Frank Reinoehl has an auto and general repair shop. W. H. Dunkelberger does electric work and C. E. Schrope is the interior decorator and painter. Mark Artz and William S. Willier have lunch rooms. E. E. Osman and Henry Miller are the town's barbers. W. P. Klinger is the village blacksmith. A. F. Geist is the dealer in all kinds of lumber and building material. The town is the home of Hegins National Bank. The ministers of the three churches of town have their residences here. The Hegins post-office is the distributing office for Rural Delivery Routes 1 and 2. Mail is received six times a day, six days a week; and rural delivery is made once a day.

Apple Industry

The apple as a money crop in Hegins Township is of recent development. The pioneer settlers planted a few local varieties of apple trees around the house and along the fences for their own use. "Snitz pie" and "apple butter" were found in the larder of every housewife. "Snitz and gneb" was a delicious dish of our great grandmothers. Snitzing parties were among the leading festivities of the younger set of the nineteenth century. At social gatherings at the homes, apples and cider were passed around while the events of the day were discussed. It was left, however, for a later day to learn that the soil of the Hegins Valley is peculiarly adapted to give that delicious flavor so much desired in an apple.

With the knowledge of disease and insect control, the industrious sons

of the soil of Hegins Township have turned to apple culture during the last few years.

P. H. Updegrave, always a pioneer, began "apple farming" as a money crop in 1878, by planting 150 trees. Some of these trees are still bearing. At present, there are 37 acres in the apple orchard of his estate. Wm. H. Maurer and Son are the largest growers in the county. Their orchards of 100 acres contain 6500 bearing trees of the newer varieties as well as some of the older favorites. John Schrope has an orchard of 10 acres and Clarence Tressler of about the same size. Howard and Valentine Harner harvest about 2,000 bushels a year. William Kauffman and Jacob Kauffman each have orchards that yield upwards of 1,500 bus. a year. Andrew Hepler, Henry Harner, Rufus and Herbert Klouser have young orchards that will give them each over 2,000 bushels yearly when they come of full bearing age. Wm. H. Schwartz has more than 500 trees; and there are about the same number on the Blyler farm. Charles Klouser, Clyde Klouser, and Mrs. Wm. Trautman have profitable orchards. John Huntsinger's young orchard of 300 trees will come into bearing in a few years. T. J. Geist has 500 trees, planted from 6 to 10 years ago. He has his own storage plant. Mark S. Maurer is one of the younger set that has visions of rich returns from his orchard of 1400 trees planted in 1928. When all of the 14,000 apple trees of Hegins Township have come to bearing age, a conservative estimate places the annual production at 100,000 bushels.

Potato Farming

As previously stated the first settlers were farmers, raising at first only enough food for their own consumption. Later when they had more land cleared they followed a five year rotation—grass (2 years), corn, oats, wheat or rye. New land

was generally put into buckwheat for several years, "to tame it." Each farmer had an acre or two of flax, and a small patch of potatoes. With the increase of population in the mining towns of the county came a demand for potatoes, and the farmers began to grow them as a commercial product. The yield in the 60's and 70's was very small per acre, rarely more than 80 bushels to the acre, due to the lack of knowledge of seed selection and fertilization. It was at this time that Samuel Diehl of the Mahantongo Valley became famous as a potato grower. He was the pioneer potato farmer of this section. His knowledge of the potato and potato growing was at least twenty years ahead of the times. When a farmer's potatoes would "run out" he would go to Mr. Diehl for new stock. He originated new varieties and produced as high as 300 bushels per acre.

The potato industry gained a new impetus in Hegins Township in 1886, when P. H. Updegrave introduced the Rural New Yorker for which he paid \$1.00 a pound for the seed. Then came the use of commercial fertilizer in 1890, and the potato planter several years later, and the digger at the beginning of the present century. But insects and diseases began to play havoc with the industry and for a while it looked as if the potato was threatened with extinction. Fortunately science came to the rescue in saving this staple food of man. The man who brought the findings of science in potato culture into the Hegins Valley was Dr. E. L. Nixon of State College, who came into Schuylkill County in 1919 to work with the farmers in the interest of potato culture and disease control. The high state of efficiency in potato farming in the Hegins Valley is largely due to Dr. Nixon's untiring labors among them. Hegins Township is one of the lead-

ing potato growing townships of the county, producing in a normal year 100,000 bushels. Among those who have repeatedly been in the "400 bushel club" are P. H. Updegrave, Philip Zerbe, John Schrope, Wm. H. Schwartz, Wm. H. Artz, Robert Schwartz, and Wm. R. Schwartz. In 1920 John Schrope had the record of the State for that year with 510 bushels. In 1934 he harvested 535 bushels per acre. In 1928, Wm. H. Schwartz had the highest yield per acre attained in the county up to that time, 539.8 bushels; but in 1934, Mr. Schwartz surpassed his previous record by raising 607 bushels on one acre.

Poultry Industry

The poultry industry in Hegins Township on a commercial basis dates from 1894, when W. H. Maurer took charge of his father's farm in the Deep Creek Valley. By keeping record of receipts and expenditures he proved that hens can be made to give a monetary profit above the cost of feed.

John Schrope began experimenting about the same time; and these two men made the poultry industry popular in the Hegins Valley, and they are both still engaged very extensively in this branch of farm activity, each housing about 2,000 laying hens and operating commercial hatcheries of 20,000 capacity. Irvin E. Artz, A. R. Artz and W. H. Artz have flocks of New Hampshire Reds numbering from 500 to 1500. J. M. Dieter has 2,000 layers housed in two of the largest combination houses in the township. Robert Hauck has 1,100 hens on free range. Charles Eckler and John Huntzinger have very fine flocks of about 500 each. Allen Stutzman has 800 layers, and O. E. Stutzman has a modern plant housing about the same number. J. M. Schrope, proprietor of the Hegins Egg Farm, has 800 laying hens. The laying house

of Ira C. Schwalm, 24 ft. by 181 ft., is perhaps the most complete poultry house in the township. Fremont Schwalm and Lloyd Schwalm have plants of 800 each. There are many more commercial and farm poultry plants in the township, ranging from a few hundred to a thousand. Most of the eggs are sold on the New York and the Philadelphia markets.

Turkey Industry

During the last few years a number of farmers have become interested in turkey raising. Meeting with success, there are half a dozen farms in the valley that have flocks of from 25 to 100 every year. The largest is the Hegins Turkey Farm at East Hegins, Harry W. Minnich, proprietor. Mr. Minnich raises a total of 1200 turkeys for the local market each year.

Coal Industry

As early as 1860, Mr. Kohler mined coal for local consumption at Rausch Gap (Kohler's Gap). Mining on a large scale in Hegins Township, however, dates with the opening of Good Spring Colliery by the P. & R. C. & I. Co. The original opening here was the sinking of the North Brookside Slope 420 feet on the Lykens Valley No. 2 Vein by the P. & R. C. & I. Co. in 1888. From the foot of the slope a tunnel was driven north 780 feet to the Lykens Valley Veins. In 1889, the No. 1 Slope was sunk on the top split of the Mammoth Vein to the first lift, and later continued sinking the slope to a distance of 1482 feet to the present bottom level. This was known as the Good Spring Slope. In 1899, Good Spring No. 3 Slope was sunk 1003 feet on the middle split of the Mammoth Vein. In 1916, a tender slope was sunk 1030 feet on the Skidmore Vein. In 1905, the No. 3 Slope water level tunnel was driven 1470 feet to Lykens Valley Veins. The coal mined at Rausch Gap was hoisted on a plane by stationary en-

gine to the top of the mountain, then by rail to Good Spring Colliery, where it was prepared for market.

For more than forty years the Good Spring Colliery gave employment to hundreds of men of the Hegins Valley and the surrounding territory. Beautiful homes were built at Hegins and Valley View by the thrifty and industrious miners, then came a day in 1930 when Good Spring Colliery shut down, and a contented and happy citizenry began to face the beginning of a new and darker day.

The only operating colliery at present in the township is the Otto Colliery, near Fountain, employing about 50 men.

CHURCHES

Friedens Reformed Church, Hegins

Many of the pioneer settlers of the Mahantongo, the Pine and the Deep Creek Valleys were members of the Reformed Church. Reformed ministers came into the region from the Tulpehocken (Berks County), Lancaster and Northumberland County settlements occasionally, prior to 1800, and held services, performed marriage ceremonies, baptized children and buried the dead. Wherever enough members lived in close proximity, congregations were organized and church buildings erected.

In 1813, Rev. John Ross Riley was assigned to "the Churches in Lykens Valley, Dauphin County, Pa." Being of an aggressive missionary spirit it is quite reasonable to believe that Mr. Riley organized the Deep Creek Church (Friedens) while Pastor of the Lykens Valley Mission. The Friedens church building was located on an eight acre plot of ground, donated by Michael Kessler for church and school, in what was, until recently, known as Kessler's School District.

In 1817, the members of the Reformed and the Lutheran Faiths united and built the log church at the site of the present Friedens Reformed and Lutheran Church at Hegins. The original site contained two and one-half acres, of which one-half acre was paid by Christian Stutzman and the remaining two acres were donated by Charles and William Witmer, of Reading. The deed was granted to John Herauf and Michael Kessler as trustees. On the building committee were Michael Artz, Philip Artz, Michael Bressler and Wilhelm Otto.

In 1819, Rev. J. Felix was elected the regular pastor of the Deep Creek, or Friedens, congregation. In 1822 Rev. H. H. Knobel appears as pastor of five congregations, some in Northumberland County and some in Schuylkill County. In 1823, two more congregations were added to his charge; and in 1826 he had charge of nine widely scattered congregations; namely, Schwa ben Creek, Herb's, Peter's and Shamokin, in Northumberland County; Deep Creek (Friedens), William's Valley (Tower City) and Klinger's in Schuylkill County, and Roaring Creek, in Columbia County. In 1828 Rev. John Hantz accepted the call of the Friedens congregation and served until 1830, when Rev. Benjamin Boyer and Rev. Isaac Stiely, probably had charge of the congregation until 1837. From 1837 to 1854, Rev. Dr. Rudolph Duenger was pastor of Frieden's Reformed Church. Mr. Duenger was born in Stuttgart, Germany, Jan. 31, 1808, and died at Ashland, March 16, 1902.

In 1855, Rev. Jared Fritzinger was called to the pastorate of the Mahanoy charge, which comprised seven congregations besides Friedens. He lived at Greenbrier, Northumberland Co. After fifteen years of faithful service in a hard field he resigned on account of failing health.

The year 1870 marks a realignment of the charge. At the meeting of East Susquehanna Classis at Milton of that year, it was resolved that the Deep Creek charge should consist of the following congregations: Klinger's, Coleman's, Artz's, Friedens, Tremont and Donaldson. Rev. Henry S. Bassler was elected and regularly installed as pastor of the new charge. The parsonage at Hegins was completed in 1871, and Pastor Bassler and his family moved into it as the first occupants. During his pastorate of seven years the new brick church was built. The old log church, which stood southwest of the present building, was torn down. During the summer of 1874, while the new church was being built, church services were held in the grove of Simon C. Schrope, east of Hegins. Some of the members of the Friedens Reformed and the Lutheran congregations living in the eastern part of the township separated and built Christ's Church at Fountain.

In 1877, Rev. B. S. Metzger was called as pastor. Before this time the services were conducted in the German language. Rev. Metzger occasionally preached in English. During the pastorate of Rev. Christian Baum, 1881-1884, the auditorium of the church was completed and furnished. In 1884, Rev. John C. G. Glantz of Chicago, accepted the pastorate of Friedens and served for four years. Two short pastorates of two years each, one of Rev. Geo. J. Lisberger and another one of Rev. Wm. G. Engle, followed. On July 15, 1894, Rev. Oliver F. Schaeffer became the pastor and served the congregations until Oct. 15, 1905. Rev. R. J. Freeman followed, with a service of a little more than a year, until Sept. 15, 1907. From Jan. 1, 1908, to July 1, 1917, Rev. C. D. Kressley had charge of the

work, when he was called to St. Mark's, Allentown. From November, 1917, to Oct. 20, 1923, Rev. B. F. Luckenbill served the congregations and also "helped out" as a teacher in the public schools during the World War period. On Jan. 6, 1934, the vacancy caused by the resignation of Rev. Mr. Luckenbill, was filled by the election of Mr. Russell D. Custer, then a student in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa. Rev. Mr. Custer resigned Sept. 1, 1926, to accept a call of the Mifflinburg, Pa., congregation. On Feb. 13, 1927, Rev. Herman J. Naftzinger, the present pastor, was elected. The Consistory of Friedens Reformed congregation, 1934, is as follows: Elders, Jonathan Buffington, J. M. Schroepe, Harry E. Otto, Harry M. Minnich, Arthur Willier and A. F. Geist; Deacons, L. H. Bressler, Alvin Stutzman, March Masser, Allen Artz, A. U. Maurer and Claude Klinger; Trustees, A. U. Maurer, Arthur Willier, and N. F. Geist; Secretary, Lloyd Geist; Treasurer, Paul Masser. The present membership is 208.

The charter for the German Reformed congregation of Friedens Hegins, was granted June 6, 1865, with Solomon Bressler, trustee; Abraham Schwartz and David Stutzman, elders; and Solomon Otto and Michael G. Bressler, deacons. Other members of the congregation applying for the charter were: Johannes Bressler, Jonathan B. Otto, David Bressler, Jonathan Otto, Solomon B. Otto, W. A. Stutzman, Peter Otto, Peter Stutzman, Henry Otto, Michael Bressler, George Ressler and Wm. B. Otto.

Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hegins

Among the early settlers of Lower Mahantongo Township, especially in the western part, which is now Hubley Township, were many

members of the Lutheran Church. They belonged to the Artz's Church at Sacramento. Those of the Deep Creek Valley (Barry Township) belonged to Kimmel's Church.

The first pastor of the Friedens Lutheran Church at Hegins, of whom there is a record, was Rev. J. N. Hemping, from 1816 to about 1847. It was at the beginning of his service that the union church mentioned in the history of the Reformed Church, was built, in 1817. It stood southwest of the present brick church. It was a quaint old-fashioned log church, 40x55 feet, with a high pulpit at the center of the north wall, with the altar in front of the pulpit. The pews on the ground floor were arranged on the sides and in front of the altar. There was a balcony in the rear and on both sides, and this is what necessitated the extremely high pulpit. The old church served the congregations, both for preaching services and Sunday School, for 57 years. The preaching services of both the Reformed and the Lutheran congregations were conducted as regularly as possible, considering the means of travel and the extent of territory the pastors had to cover. There was no resident minister during this time.

After Pastor Hemping there are no definite records who served Friedens, except that Rev. Augustus Bergner served a number of Lutheran congregations in southern Northumberland and western Schuylkill counties. Among the congregations in Schuylkill county served by Rev. Bergner was Kimmel's in Barry Township. Friedens may have been another. Rev. John Forthman was pastor of the Artz's congregation at Sacramento, Pa., and served as supply at Friedens until 1870. In 1870, Rev. Daniel Sanner of Tremont, became the reg-

ular pastor of Friedens. Pastor Sanner was greatly beloved and esteemed, not only by members of the congregations he served, but also by the communities in whose midst he labored long and faithfully. He served Friedens until 1889. During his pastorate the brick church was built. The building committee was Michael G. Bressler, Solomon B. Otto, David S. Artz and Nathan D. Yoder. Two short pastorates followed that of Pastor Sanner. Pastor Fetter served from 1890 to 1892; and Pastor Ritter in 1893. These were prosperous years, for they saw a large increase in membership and general activity of the congregation. This progress was undoubtedly due to the fact that Rev. Fetter was the first Lutheran pastor to live at Hegins, thus affording better opportunity to work among the people. During the pastorate of Charles A. Kerschner, from 1894 to 1900, the parsonage was built. Rev. A. H. Klick followed Pastor Kerschner, from 1900 to 1912. A short pastorate of Rev. George Kirschle, in 1913, was followed by Rev. M. W. Krause in 1914. At the beginning of his pastorate, the parish was divided. Trinity, Valley View; St. Paul's, Sacramento; St. Matthew's, Coleman's; and Zion, Klinger's, withdrew amicably from the Pine Valley parish.

Rev. Levi Yiengst was the next pastor, 1918-1923; and was followed by Rev. Amos Lichty, Jr., 1924-1933. On July 1, 1933, Rev. Carl H. Moyer, the present incumbent, became the pastor of the Pine Valley parish, which includes Friedens, Hegins; Kimmel's, Barry and Fountain. The present membership of Friedens is 268, with the following organization of the church council: President, Rev. Carl Moyer; Vice President, Clark Huntzinger; Treasurer, Francis Eckler; Financial Sec-

retary, Ralph Ressler; Deacons, Guy L. Schrope, Harry Artz, Wm. Ely, Andrew Diehl and Leo Smeltz.

The charter for the Evangelical Lutheran congregation of Friedens Church, Hegins, was obtained June 8, 1874. The officers were: Simon C. Schrope and Levi Reed, elders; and N. D. Yoder and Samuel Huntzinger, deacons. Other members mentioned in the application for the charter were: David S. Artz, Harrison Wagner, Gabriel Reed, Joel Reed, D. S. Maurer and Emanuel Reed.

Christ Reformed and Lutheran Church, Fountain

Christ congregation of Hegins Township was organized Aug. 2, 1873, with about sixty members of the Friedens Reformed and the Friedens Lutheran congregations that lived in the eastern part of the township. The officers were: William A. Stutzman, president; August Dinger, secretary; and David Otto, treasurer. For many years prior to this date a Sunday School was maintained in the school house which stood opposite the present church building. In September of 1873, the newly organized congregation resolved to erect a church building, and David Otto, George Dinger, Peter Stutzman and Isaac Shadle were appointed a building committee. The cornerstone of the new building was laid May 24, 1874, and the building was dedicated Nov. 22 of the same year. The pastors of the congregations at the time were Rev. Henry S. Bassler, Reformed, and Rev. Daniel Sanner, Lutheran. The pastors have been the same as those of the Friedens Church of Hegins.

The charter for the new congregation under the corporate name of Christ Church of Hegins Township, Schuylkill Co., Pa., was granted by

the Court of Common Pleas, Nov. 27, 1886. The charter specifies that the corporation is formed for the purpose of public worship according to the faith, doctrine, discipline and usages of the German Reformed and the Evangelical Lutheran Churches. Wm. A. Stutzman and Nathan B. Hauck represented the Reformed congregation as the first trustees; and George Dinger and Frank Artz, the Lutheran congregation. At the regular election following the granting of the charter, the following officers were elected: Reformed congregation, elders, David Stutzman and Wm. Thomas; deacons, Simon Otto and Andrew Stutzman; trustees, Wm. A. Stutzman and Peter Otto. The Lutheran congregation elected Frank Artz and Ashen Graver as elders; Adam Degler and Fred Shadle, deacons; and George Dinger and Wilson R. Dinger as trustees.

In 1834, the church was remodeled, decorated and stained windows installed. The present membership is 100. The Sunday School has an enrollment of 117.

Church of God—Valley View

The first church building of the Church of God at Valley View was a small union meeting house about one mile east of town where the cemetery is located near the Hegins Township High School. The building was erected about 1856. This ground was donated by John Holdeman, and the deed for the same was executed on Aug. 15, 1856. Daniel Laudenslager and Peter Herring were the first elders, and Simon Shugar and Jacob Krone were the first deacons. The congregation worshipped at this place for a period of about fifteen years, and during a part of this time the members of the Evangelical Church worshipped in the same building. Some

of the pastors during this period were: Jacob Hepler, George Hepler, Wm. Klinger, I. Hay, Elder Myers, Elder Weishample and Elder Petry.

In 1871, the congregation decided that Valley View was the proper place for the location of the church building, since it would be more convenient for a majority of its membership. Accordingly, by a majority vote it was agreed to remove the same to Valley View, where the building was erected on a lot purchased from Samuel Shade. In this building the Church of God congregation worshipped for a period of about 37 years. A deed executed in 1875 gives the following officers: Elders, Jacob Schrope and Samuel C. Miller; Deacons, Daniel Laudenslager and Samuel Shade. Elder Smith was the pastor at the time of the removal. He was followed by Rev. I. Hay, Elder Dressler, Rev. Shindle, Rev. Stoneseiffer, Rev. Meixel, Rev. Stouffer, Rev. Emanuel Mayers, Rev. C. Kehler and Rev. B. B. Wenger.

In 1908, this building was torn down and a new church building was erected, on the same lot and on additional ground purchased from John Klouser. The building committee consisted of H. M. Klouser, chairman; R. H. Laudenslager, secretary; V. W. Schrope, treasurer; B. H. Haas, Daniel Gable, John Klouser, James Schriver and C. I. Laudenslager. The cornerstone was laid on Sunday July 13, 1908. Rev. B. B. Wenger was the pastor at the time. Daniel Gable and H. M. Klouser were the elders; V. W. Schrope and Emerson Huntzinger, deacons; and C. I. Laudenslager, Daniel Gable and John Barr, trustees.

Monroe Schmeltz had charge of the erection of the building.

From the time of the erection of the new building to the present time the pastors have been as follows. Rev. B. B. Wenger, Rev. I. N. Demy, Rev. C. D. Collins, Rev. E. T. Sheets, Rev. B. E. Lehman, Rev. C. M. Fahl, Rev. A. M. Rhine, Rev. H. B. Lingle and the present incumbent, Rev. C. F. Helwig. The present officers are: Elders, H. M. Klouser, C. A. Stutzman, Michael Kessler and Daniel Gable; deacons, Rufus Harner, Geo. Hepler, Frank Scheib, and Clarence Maurer; trustees, C. I. Laudenslager, V. W. Schroepe and H. M. Klouser.

Evangelical Church, Hegins

It was during the itinerancies of Rev. John Sybert, mentioned in the history of the Mahantongo Valley, that he entered the Hegins Valley and preached at the home of Peter Bixler, now the home of Chas. Minnich, in 1826. Some of the first members were Peter Bixler and wife, John Mullen, Geo. Kessler and wife, John Holdeman, Peter Maurer and wife, Abraham Roebuck and wife, George Straub and wife, Mrs. Peter Herring and Jacob Dunkelberger and wife. There was, however, no permanent organization formed until 1853. Some of the ministers that held meetings and preached here prior to the organization of a regular congregation were: Revs. Leib, Sansel, Adams, Dissinger, Fansworth, Eckert, Gross and Haines. From 1852 to 1863, the congregation was regularly served by Reverends Hambright, Sindlinger and Heim. The first great revival was held in the barn of Jacob Dunkelberger, by Rev. David Lentz, in 1863.

About this time, a small union church was built by the members of the Church of God and the Evangelical Association at the site of the Church of God Cemetery, near the Hegins Township High School build-

ing. This is more fully described in connection with the history of that denomination. This small building was razed and the new church building of the Church of God congregation was erected at Valley View, in 1871. The Evangelical people, failing to secure legal right to the location, held occasional services at the homes of the members for about a year. In 1873, they procured the present location at Hegins and erected a church building, the official name of which is the St. John's Evangelical Church of Hegins, Pa. In 1928, the church was remodeled, enlarged and beautified, at the cost of \$3,600.

The following ministers served the congregation from 1863 to 1873: Rev. I. E. Knerr, Rev. W. Weand and Rev. Mr. Seltzer. Since 1873 the congregation has been served by the following: Rev. B. H. Miller, 1873-1876; Rev. S. T. Leopold, 1876-1879; Rev. J. L. Werner, 1879-1882; Rev. F. Sechrist, 1882-1885; Rev. D. S. Manning, 1891-1895; Rev. J. E. Beam, 1893-1899; Rev. I. F. Bergstresser, 1899-1900; Rev. D. S. Manning, 1900-1903; Rev. J. L. Boyer, 1903-1904; Rev. W. A. Eby, 1904-1905; Rev. C. C. Hoffman, 1905-1907; Rev. D. A. Brown, 1907-1909; Rev. L. A. Werner, 1909-1913; Rev. F. W. Solver, 1913-1919; Rev. Paul Taylor, 1919-1921; Rev. W. A. Eby, 1921-1922; Rev. M. S. Mumma, 1922-1926; Rev. A. W. Buck, 1926-1927; Rev. W. L. Ketner, 1927-1929; Rev. C. C. Hoffman, 1929-1931; Rev. L. H. Yergey, 1931-1933; Rev. A. E. Miller, 1933-1934; Rev. Harry H. Mengel, 1934.

The official board, 1934, is as follows: E. E. Schrawder, president; J. E. Bohner, secretary; Rufus Bixler, treasurer; John Schroepe, Derwin Miller, Howard Herner, Rufus Holdeman, E. E. Schrawder, trustees; Derwin Miller, class leader;

Mrs. Emma Herb, assistant; Mrs. Albert Bixler, president Ladies' Aid; John Schroepe, E. E. Schrawder, Derwin Miller, Rufus Bixler, Rufus Holdeman, J. E. Bohner, stewards.

United Brethren Church, Valley View

The United Brethren Church at Valley View was organized some time prior to 1861 through the instrumentality of Dr. Jacob Shope, John Holdeman and others. In 1861, East Pennsylvania Conference assigned Rev. Lewis W. Cranner, a German preacher, to have charge of this congregation. It was made a part of the Lykens Valley Circuit, which comprised, in addition to the church at Valley View, congregations in Hubley Township, Barry Township, Berrysburg, Reigels, Farneys, Killinger, Uniontown and Gratz. At most of these places there were no church buildings, and services were held at the homes of members of the congregation. From 1863 to 1865, Rev. H. E. Hackman, Rev. John Lowery and Rev. Jacob Runk were assigned to this very large circuit. In 1865 the churches of the Lykens Valley Circuit situated in Schuylkill County were detached and became a separate mission, known as the Germantown (Valley View) mission. Rev. Frederick List was assigned to the mission and served until 1867. Since the formation of the Germantown mission, which was recognized as the Valley View Circuit in 1878, the pastors have been as follows: Rev. James Shoop, 1867-1870; Rev. Wm. Dissinger, 1870-1871; Rev. Jacob Mark, 1872-1874; Rev. Lewis Fleischer, 1874-1875; Rev. Simon Noll, 1876-1877; Rev. H. E. Hackman, 1877-1878; Rev. James Shoop, 1878-1880; Rev. John Boughter, 1880-1881; Rev. George Schindler, 1881-1882; Rev. John Binkley, 1882-1883; Rev. John Lowery, 1883-1884; Rev. F. H. Rud-

loff, 1884-1887; Rev. Joel Light, 1888-1893; Rev. James Shoop, 1893-1894; Rev. Conrad Lehr, 1895-1900; Rev. O. G. Romig, 1901-1903; Rev. R. S. Arndt, 1904-1909; Rev. M. H. Miller, 1910-1911; Rev. P. M. Holdeman, 1911-1912; Rev. H. M. Mentzer, 1913-

Christ's Lutheran Church, Valley View

In 1905 a small number of members of the Lutheran Church at Valley View agreed to undertake to raise a building fund for the erection of a Lutheran Church building at Valley View on a lot west of the property then owned by Daniel Wolfgang.

A committee of seven men was appointed to solicit subscriptions for this project. It consisted of Wm. Lebo, M. D.; Wilson Shadle, Wilson Hartman, Andrew Hepler, David Snyder, Daniel Wolfgang and Rev. A. H. Klick, pastor of the Pine Valley charge of the Lutheran Church. The committee requested the subscribers to contribute either money, labor, material or hauling for the erection of the building.

In 1906, members of the Lutheran denomination of Valley View and surrounding territory agreed to organize a congregation under the name of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of Valley View. They agreed to erect a church edifice for the use of public worship. On May 19, 1907, the cornerstone was laid with appropriate services. At the same time a constitution was adopted. Shortly thereafter, the following were elected as the members of the first church council: Wilson Shadle, Wilson Hartman, Daniel Wolfgang, Andrew Hepler, John Huntzinger and George Thomas.

The church was dedicated June 2, 1908. Rev. A. H. Klick was the first pastor. He continued as pastor until 1912, when he resigned to assume the pastorate of St. John's

Lutheran Church of Lykens, June 1, 1912. Rev. Edgar D. Xander became pastor and remained such until July 1, 1918.

Nov. 1, 1918, Rev. John A. Latsha assumed charge and remained until July 1, 1922. On Oct. 1, 1922, Rev. Allen R. Appel entered upon the field, in which he worked until April 7, 1925, and on Oct. 16, 1925, a call was extended to the Rev. D. I. Sultzbach, Ph. D., the present incumbent. He assumed charge on Dec. 1, 1925. He was installed June 20, 1926. On Nov. 20, 1932, Dr. Sultzbach celebrated the 25th anniversary of his ordination. The 25th anniversary of the Christ's Church was celebrated May 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 1933. The present membership is 248. The officers are: Dr. D. I. Sultzbach, president; A. R. Deibler, vice president; A. R. Koppenhaver, secretary; John P. Ressler, treasurer; George Thomas, Robert Bossler, Fred Straub and Lewis Matter.

EDUCATION

The early settlers of Lower Mahantongo Township were members of either the Reformed or the Lutheran Church. They believed in education. The church and the school grew up together. Prior to 1817, a church school was conducted at the log church building in "Kessler's District." After the log church, at the present site of the Reformed and Lutheran Church at Hegins, was built, in 1817, a church school was conducted there. Valentine Savidge was one of the early teachers. A subscription school was conducted as early as 1830 at the present town of Fountain, in which the pupils were taught reading, writing, German, spelling and arithmetic. These early schools were closely associated with the church, and the catechism and the Bible were the chief textbooks. In the early 40's

prior to the establishment of the free schools in the western part of the township, Andrew Schrob and others employed a New England schoolmaster to teach their children to speak, read, and write the English language. The school was held at the tannery north of the present town of Valley View.

After the passage of the "Act of April 1, 1834, to establish a general system of education by Common Schools," citizens of a community would petition the legislature for the passage of an act to permit them to select a board of directors with power to establish schools, levy taxes, elect teachers, etc.

The eastern part of the township, south of the Little Mountain was about equally divided in favor of free schools and against them. The friends of public schools, knowing how the citizens would vote, petitioned the legislature to pass an act creating the lower Mahantongo School District with boundary so as to include a majority of friends of free schools. The act approved by Governor David R. Porter, June 5, 1840, follows:—"An act to create a separate school district from Lower Mahantongo Township, Schuylkill County: That from and after the passage of this act, the qualified citizens of Lower Mahantongo Township, Schuylkill County, residing within the following limits, to wit: beginning at the Barry Township line, on the north side of the Broad Mountain, in said township; hence along the said mountain, so as to include the house of John Kunselman; thence across the said township of Lower Mahantongo in a line so as to include the house of Joseph Snyder; thence along the said township line so as to include the house of Daniel Fiddler; thence along the south side of the Little Mountain so as to include the house

of John Gehres; thence along the said mountain to a point, in a direct line to the Barry Township line aforesaid, shall form a separate school district, subject to the same provisions and restrictions in the Act entitled; An Act to establish a general system of education by the Common Schools; passed April 1, 1834, and its supplements. The first election of School Directors to be held at the house of Peter Stutzman in said township, under the directions of Peter Stutzman, Jr., Peter Bressler, and Peter Dinger, who are hereby required, or a majority of them, to give public notice of the time and place of the holding of such election, at least 10 days prior thereto."

William M. Hopkins, Speaker of House. E. Kingsbury, Jr., Speaker of Senate.

The territory comprised in the new school district included only the settled portion of the eastern part of the township. The majority of the citizens of the rest of the township were not in favor of public schools. You will notice that the act "included houses," not lands. The house of John Kuntzelman was where W. H. Artz now lives, in East Hegins; the house of Daniel Fiddler was where John Schrope now lives, the house of John Gehres was near where Arthur Houch now lives.

Later, when the "mountain land" became valuable as coal land, this independent school district lost considerable support from coal land taxes.

German Schools

The first school house in Lower Mahantongo School District was situated just across the road from the Fountain R. & L. Church. The second building was erected opposite where the road from Jacob Kaufman meets State Highway

Route 125. More than one-third of the pupils of these schools were instructed in the German language.

The remainder of what is now Hegins Township, including the villages of Hegins and Valley View, was without public school facilities until 1847.

On April 13, 1846, an act of the Legislature was passed forming the Coal and Pine School District, to comprise all of the territory of Lower Mahantongo Township exclusive of the Lower Mahantongo School District. Lower Mahantongo Township comprised at this time the territory of Hubley and Hegins Township. Under this act several schools were opened in what is now Hubley Township, and about the same time the school that later became the independent Kessler's School District had its beginning. The farm of George Haberacker, (where Israel Noll now lives) was added to the Lower Mahantongo Independent School District by this act. Although the act included the towns of Hegins (Renntown) and Valley View (Ossmantown) and the adjacent territory of the Township, no schools were established. Among those who worked for the adoption of the free school were: Andrew Schrob, Daniel Laudenslager, Ruben Huntzinger, George Ressler, Valentine Savidge, Joseph Osman and Abraham Schwank.

Form Well Made School District

On Feb. 18, 1847, by act of the Legislature the Well Made School District was formed. The boundaries of the District were almost identical with what became the boundaries of Hegins Township School District in 1854, exclusive of the Lower Mahantongo and the Kessler's Independent Districts. The act provided that John Schrope, Sr., be ap-

pointed judge and John Henry and W. R. Hower be appointed inspectors, to hold an election at the same time and place at which the township election was held, for the purpose of electing directors for the above mentioned, Well Made School District. Philip Osman, Andrew Schrope, Peter Stutzman, Jr., Elias Artz, Jacob Steim and Samuel Shadt were elected first school directors of the district. They immediately planned to build three school homes—one at the place where the Valley View Motion Picture house now stands, one just east of the Friedens R. & L. Church, at Hegins, and one at the mountain road on the Blyler farm.

When Hegins Township was formed in 1854, the name of the Well Made school district was changed to Hegins Township School District. In 1856, according to the report of County Superintendent Jonathan Krewson, the total enrollment in the five schools of the three independent district of Hegins Township: namely, Lower Mahantongo, Kessler's and Well Made, was 303, of which 31 studied German. The teachers taught the books the pupils brought to school.

The Rausch Gap school house was built in 1863, and in 1868 the school house on the mountain road at Blyler's, was abandoned and two new ones were built—Fairview and Warbling Run. The school house at Valley View was destroyed by fire in 1880; and the following year a two-room building was erected at Valley View and a two-room building at Hegins.

Hegins Township maintained the three independent school districts until 1911, when, by act of the School Code, the independent districts were abolished and the Hegins Township School District included all the territory of the township.

First H. S. Graduates

In 1900 high school studies began to be taught in the upper grades at Valley View and Hegins. Pupils from Kessler's and Lower Mahantongo districts were admitted as pay pupils. In 1901 the first high school class was graduated.

In 1909 four-room buildings were erected at Hegins and at Valley View. High schools were operated at both places. Later another four-room building was erected at Valley View and two additional rooms were added to the Hegins building.

The code of 1911 having abolished the independent school districts, Hegins Township had seven ungraded schools in the rural section of the township and three graded schools in the towns of Hegins and Valley View. Many of the ungraded rural schools were small and the subject of consolidation was being considered. In 1917, principally through the efforts of Assistant County Superintendent J. M. Schrope consolidation was begun. In the fall of that year the Rausch Gap School was closed and the pupils transferred to the graded schools at Valley View. The following year the Bear Valley, the Fairview and the Warbling Run schools were closed and the pupils transported to the town schools. Most of the objection to consolidation centered around transportation. Consolidation, it was urged by the advocates, would give the township a school system instead of independent schools. Comfortable buses in charge of competent drivers removed the objections. And so, in 1919, two more schools came in; and in 1924, at the earnest petition of the parents of the last one-room school, complete consolidation of the township was effected.

In 1920, M. G. Stump was elected supervising principal. The two schools of the higher grades were combined into one system. Although for the time conducted in two different buildings, yet they constituted one high school. The rating was changed from a third grade high school to a second grade. The name was changed to the Hegins Township High School. Chemistry, French, German, Music and Art were added to the course. The first class under the new name graduated in 1922.

Purchased H. S. Site

On March 16, 1923, the school board composed of John Schrope, E. M. Huntsinger, A. R. Deibler, W. H. Harner and T. W. Hepler voted to purchase approximately 12 acres of land from the John Holdeman estate as a site for a high school building. The site was purchased for \$5000. On April 13, 1923, Clyde Adams, of Philadelphia, was engaged as architect to design a modern high school building. The plans were submitted May 25, 1923, and approved by the Board. The question of creating a debt to erect and equip the building was submitted to the voters on July 23, 1923. The proposition was defeated by a majority of 53 votes.

All the three school buildings being crowded and the work of the high school being very unsatisfactory because of lack of facilities, the Board decided, on July 4, 1924, to erect a five-room Circle A. temporary building on the recently purchased plot of ground, in which to carry on the work of the high school. The building was occupied in October of that year and for the first time the upper grades were housed by themselves in one building. Physics, Instrumental Music, and higher Mathematics and two additional years of Latin were added to the course. In 1925 the

State Department of Public Instruction gave the High School a rating of a first class school.

Vote in Favor Board Issue

Three years of rather satisfactory work as compared with former years, but not meeting the needs of a well-regulated and well-equipped high school brings us to the summer of 1927. The school board, composed of A. E. Willier, John Schrope, Robert E. Bossler, Lloyd G. Snyder and Harry L. Coleman, agreed to again submit to the voters the proposition of a bond issue. At a special election held July 19, 1927, the proposition of a bond issue of \$200,000 carried by a majority of 170 votes. Ritcher and Eiler, of Reading were engaged as architects; and the Thompson Construction Company of Towanda, Pa., secured the contract for erecting the building. The new building is 240½ ft. by 127 ft., and contains a spacious auditorium, seating 750 people, a gymnasium with a floor space of 4930 sq. ft., a large library room and all the regular and special class rooms necessary for a junior-senior high school including manual training, health, domestic science, art, music, business, dramatics.

In 1934 the spacious cafeteria on the lower floor was completed by the aid of PWA funds. Modern equipment was purchased, including thirty-one tables and two hundred forty chairs at a cost of \$1285.00. The total cost of labor, material and equipment of the cafeteria was \$7510.57. Here hot lunches of the best food are served to students and teachers at a minimum cost. Students can bring their own lunches and eat them in this room. During lunch hour, the school orchestra under the direction of Bartel Schade furnishes music. The cafeteria is often used for banquets by organizations of the community.

The building was occupied in October, 1928, with an enrollment of 295 pupils, grades 7 to 12 inclusive. The State Department of Public Instruction recognized the school as the Junior-Senior High School of Hegins Township. The pupils are transported from all sections of the township and from surrounding townships, by seven large, comfortable school busses, some of them from a distance of seven miles, and one bus, 1935, makes a trip of 25 miles, one way. The former opposition to consolidation has died out. The different sections of the community are bound together as never before, because of a common interest. All the children are given equal educational opportunities. In the class-room, in athletic sports, in vocal and instrumental music organizations, in art projects, in physical and dramatic demonstrations, and in all other departments of education, the girls and boys of the farm compare favorably with their town cousins. There is no longer any class or caste distinction. Consolidation has made them all members of one school system, each following the line of school activity best suited to his individual needs.

Vocational Agriculture Course

In 1933, vocational agriculture was added to the course, under Federal and State Supervision. Forty-seven boys and girls are enrolled in this department. Many of these will be the future farmers of America. In addition to the regular class-room work, each pupil in this department carries on a farm project.

The enrollment in the high school, grades 7 to 12 inclusive, for 1934-35, is 460, of whom 53 are from the surrounding townships of Barry, Eldred and Mahantongo. The teachers in the high school for 1934-35 are: Clarence E. Toole, Supervising Principal; Walter E. Eshelman, Super-

visor, Vocational Agriculture; Mrs. C. E. Snyder, Art Supervisor; Bartel Schade, Instrumental Music, Band, Orchestra; Harry B. Haag, Vocal Music; D. K. Schwartz, Principal; Chester Shadle, Science, English; Ray A. Troutman, Biology, General Science, Physics, and Problems of Dem.; William A. Maurer, Mathematics; Leo Bressler, English; Herman L. Coleman, History, Chemistry; Guy R. Artz, Algebra, Arithmetic; E. Clair Klees, History, Geography; Mrs. Tillie Geist Eshelman, Home Economics; Beatrice A. Heckert, Physical Education, Health; Albert F. Willier, English, German, History; Clara A. Dyer, Library; Irene Schrope, Latin, English, French; Rex E. Wright, Industrial Arts; Mary A. Brehm, Commercial.

The elementary grades are housed in two buildings, one at Valley View and one at Hegins. The enrollment in grades 1 to 6, inclusive, for 1934-1935 is 593. The teachers are: Mrs. Myrtle Zeigler, Verna I. Kehres, Sula E. Kehres, Mary E. Hoffman, Mrs. Hattie E. Keisling, V. W. Schrope, Sarah L. Hoffman, Laura M. Troutman, Leo Smeltz, Eva E. Ressler, Mary P. Ressler, Mrs. Anna Eberts Sweitzer, Mary A. Ossman, Beulah Dunkelberger, Ellen Stutzman.

The members of the present board of directors are: Jay J. Maurer, Pres.; Robert R. Schwalm, Sec.; Harry E. Otto, Treas; W. G. Mayer and S. R. Masser.

Seven school buses, operated by Ira Schlegel, Vernon Romberger, Winfield Stutzman, N. F. Geist, Mark Artz and Harry Minnich, transport 250 pupils to the grade school and the high school.

Vocal and instrumental music groups and individuals of the school have won first and second honors during the last three years at the County music contests. The Hegins Township High School Band was

awarded the county championship certificate for the last three consecutive years, and in 1934 it carried off the honor as State Champion School Band in Class C high schools.

Activity Clubs Formed

Not every pupil, however, can excel in music. In order to give opportunity to all pupils to specialize in some line of activity, various clubs have been organized. The Sketch Club under the direction of Mrs. Snyder, has seventeen members doing excellent work. The German Club, in charge of Mr. Willier has twelve members, who give reports on German musical composers and conduct German spelling-bees. The French Club of four members carries on its work in that language. Miss Schroepe their leader, tells them of her experiences in France. The Dancing Club of seventeen members is in charge of Miss Heckert. Mrs. Eshelman's Home Economics Club of forty-five members cooperates with other clubs in entertaining and serving refreshments. The Future Farmers Club has forty members in charge of Mr. Eshelman. They have taken trips to the Farm Products Show and to State College. The thirteen members of the Science Club have Mr. Troutman as teacher and leader. The Dramatic Club of fifty members is directed by Mr. Bressler and Mr. Wright. Mr. Klees has twenty-three members in the Travel and Stamp Club. The twenty-five members of the Antique Club in charge of Mr. Artz have collected quite a museum of farm implements, furniture, etc.

Mr. Maurer's Aviation Club of forty-five members studies the lives and achievements of noted aviators. The Library Club studies the cataloguing and arrangements of books and magazines and assists in the finding of information called for by pupils and teachers. There are

forty-three enrolled in this club. The fifty-four members of the Social Improvement Club in charge of Mr. Troutman discuss the social conditions of the community and how they may be improved. The Commercial Club of seventeen members is directed by Miss Brehm. Mr. Shadle, assisted by other members of the faculty has charge of the athletic activities of the school.

ORGANIZATIONS

Camp 145, P. O. S. of A., Hegins

On July 23, 1887, Washington Camp No. 145, P. O. S. A. was instituted by Dist. Pres. A. L. Laubenstein, of Ashland, with the following charter members: J. H. Baum, P. Pres.; J. F. H. Long, J. M. Schroepe, Delegate; E. M. Dunkelberger, N. D. Yoder, J. H. Dunkelberger, Pres.; M. S. Schwalm, Con.; E. G. Ressler, Rec. Sec.; J. H. Schroepe, F. Sec.; J. H. Schucker, H. W. Bressler, H. M. Otto, H. O. Geer, M. of F.; A. R. Schucker, A. B. Klouser, Treas.; Joel Klouser, Jas. S. Minnich, Guard; Emanuel Schwalm, S. A. Huntzinger, Vice Pres.; Elias Klouser, H. G. Dunkelberger, F. B. Klouser, Wm. R. Snyder, C. W. Bair, Harry Hower and E. E. Stutzman.

For the first two years meetings were held in the Odd Fellows' Hall, with active participation by all the members, in the discussions of immigration, prohibition, election of senators, socialism, purity of the ballot, and other questions of local and national interest. In 1889, the members began to have vision of a lodge hall of their own. A committee conferred with J. F. H. Long, who was erecting a block of dwelling houses, to have him add a third story to his building for a lodge hall. The additional story was added at a cost to the Camp of \$550.

Having a home of their own, special efforts were made to enlist

the interest of the young men of the community, with the result that the membership soon passed the hundred mark. On May 30, 1890, the Camp, in conjunction with the Grand Army of the Republic held memorial services. These services have been a regular feature ever since, and since the passing of the G. A. R., they are entirely in charge of Camp 145. They are held on the Sunday nearest Decoration Day at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon, at the Frieden's Church Cemetery.

In 1904, the entire building of which the Camp owned the third floor, was purchased from Mr. Long for \$2,250. The first floor houses the post office and two private families. The second floor has two social rooms. The present membership is 140, and the assets in real estate and investments are over \$18,000. The Camp has always taken an active part in every movement for the improvement of the community.

**Ellsworth Lodge No. 568, I. O. O. F.,
Valley View**

Ellsworth Lodge No. 568, I. O. O. F., was organized at Sacramento, Pa. The charter was granted May 24, 1861. The first meeting was held on Aug. 9, 1861. The dedication of the Odd Fellow's Hall, Sacramento, was held at the same time. The following officers were installed: Noble Grand, Danl. Bohner; Vice Grand, Henry Reedy; Secy., Geo. F. Wiest; Asst. Secy., John Stein; Treas., Jacob Umholtz; Right Supporter to the Noble Grand, Solomon Enterline; Left Supporter to the Noble Grand, Danl. Shucker; Right Supporter to the Vice Grand, Wm. Schwalm; Left Supporter to the Vice Grand, Wm. Schwalm; Inside Guardian, Jacob D. Artz; Outside Guardian, Geo. W. Boyer.

The following were charter members, in addition to the officers: Edw. Osman, Chas. Yoke, Solomon Falck, John H. Adams, Henry Hass, Michael Bressler, B. E. Reedy, Geo. W. Lehman, Jacob Stein, W. B. Huntzinger.

On Mar. 20, 1880, it was decided to transfer the lodge from Sacramento to Valley View, and the first meeting at that place was held on April 10, 1880.

**Heginsville Lodge No. 726, I. O. O. F.
Hegins**

Heginsville Lodge is an off-shoot of Ellsworth Lodge, of Sacramento, organized in 1861, whose meetings the members from the upper end of the valley attended regularly, often going on horseback.

Believing, however, that they could better serve their brothers and the community by having a lodge nearer home, the members from Hegins and Fountain made application to the Grand Lodge for a charter for a new lodge. The request was granted, and Heginsville Lodge, No. 726, I. O. O. F., of Hegins, Pa., was instituted on Sept. 22, 1870. The first officers were: Noble Grand, Solomon G. Bressler; Vice Grand, Joel S. Dinger; Secy., Edw. Bressler and Joel G. Ressler; Treas., Nathan B. Otto, and representative to the Grand Lodge, Emanuel G. Ressler. The first meetings were held in a large room on the second floor of the Heginsville Hotel.

The charter members besides those mentioned as officers were: Simon C. Schrope, John Reed, Isaac G. Shadel, W. B. Otto. Jonathan B. Stutzman, N. M. Bressler, N. S. Bressler and John Stutzman.

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On Oct. 21, 1870, the lodge decided to build a hall. Money to finance the project was raised by selling certificates of indebtedness at \$25 a share. A committee, composed of S. C. Schrope, N. D. Yoder and N. B. Otto, was appointed to purchase a suitable site. It was finally arranged to unite with the trustees of the Reformed Church to erect a building, the first and second floor to be used as a dwelling for the Reformed pastor, and the third floor for a lodge hall. The building was completed and dedicated May 29, 1871, with fitting ceremony.

For several years the lodge operated a Saving Fund, where members deposited their money on saving accounts, so it really served as a bank for its members.

Beginning with Dec., 1878, the lodge published for some time "The Odd Fellows Record," of which N. D. Yoder was the editor.

The publication was written in long-hand by the editor, and contained articles of interest to lodge members, as well as articles of community interest. Copies of the publication are on file in the lodge hall.

On Mar. 18, 1911, they sold the hall to the Reformed Church, and on April 8, 1911, they moved to the Knights of the Golden Eagle Hall, now Maurer's Hall.

At present the membership is 114. The lodge takes an active interest in all community projects, and is the originator of the Hegins Home Coming Celebration.

Daughters of America, No. 146, Hegins

The local council of the Daughters of America, Dolly Madison Council No. 146, was organized on Aug. 21, 1921. There were at that time 31 candidates for initiation into the Order.

Mrs. Clara Schwalm was honored by being elected to serve as the first Councilor. The other officers were: Associate Councilor, Mrs. Helen Stutzman Custer; Vice Councilor, Mrs. Carrie Dunkelberger; Associate Vice Councilor, Mrs. Margaret Osman Hand, Jr.; Past Councilor, Mrs. Carrie Schwalm; Associate Jr. Past Councilor, Mrs. Jennie Otto; Rec. Secy., Mrs. Blanche Shadle; Asst. Rec. Secy., Mrs. Bertha Otto Stutzman; Fin. Secy., Mrs. Blanche Malick; Treas., Mrs. Jennie Shucker; Conductor, Mrs. Jennie Morgan; Warden, Mrs. Ruth Sausser Mauger; Inside Sentinel, Mrs. Florence Reed Green; Outside Sentinel, Mrs. Matie Wetzel; Trustees, Mrs. Helen Reed and Mrs. Nora Schwartz; Representative, Mrs. Carrie Schwalm; Alternative Representative, Mrs. Jennie Otto.

In addition to the officers, the following were charter members: Mrs. Olive Zeigler, Mrs. Iva Ressler Holland, Mrs. Eva Reed Miller, Mrs. Ruth Hepler Newcomb, Mrs. Dorothy Schwartz Osman, Mrs. Katherine Bretzius Troxel, Miss Katherine Schwartz, Miss Emma Yoder, Mrs. Florence Osman, Mrs. Amy Eckler, Mrs. Grace Artz, Mrs. Erma Ludwig, Mrs. Katie Deitrich, Mrs. Laura Huntzinger, Mrs. Emma Osman, Mrs. Eva Artz, Mrs. Katie Morgan, Mrs. Laurretta Reed Bixler, Mrs. Eva Herb Kehres and Mrs. Annie Ressler.

Marigold Rebecca Lodge No. 257, Valley View

The Marigold Rebecca Lodge, No. 257, Valley View, was organized Aug. 8, 1903, with 40 members. The first officers were: Noble Grand, Mrs. Sarah Lebo; Vice Grand, Mrs. Wm. Rogers; Secy., Mrs. C. A. Snyder. The membership at present is 100.

Council No. 302, Jr. O. U. A. M.

Council No. 302, Jr. O. U. A. M., Hegins was organized Nov. 15, 1919

with 49 charter members. The first officers were: Councilor, Walter Stutzman; Vice Councilor, Elmer Miller; Recording Secretary, Irvin Stutzman; Assistant, Archie Bohner; Financial Secretary, Allen Mallick; Treasurer, Elvin Bixler; Conductor, Howard Sausser; Warden, Raymond Zeigler; I. S., Ralph Stutzman; O. S., Frank Reinohl; Jr. P. Councilor, Charles Stutzman; Trustees, William Schwartz, Clinton Lubold, and Irvin Dunkelberger; Chaplain, Charles Huntzinger.

The Council meets in Maurer's Hall.

American Legion, Valley View

Valley View Post No. 575, American Legion, meets on the first and the third Thursday evening of each month in the Valley View Fire Co. Hall. The Post was organized March 20, 1929, with 52 members. Harry O. Klinger was the first Commander; Wm. H. Smeltz, the first Adjutant; and Ralph Gilbert, the first Finance Officer. The following year the membership increased to 76, and by 1931, the enrollment was 83. Wm. D. Steily was Commander in 1931, and Chas. A. Koppenhaver in 1932. The present officers are: Walter W. Williams, Commander; Wm. H. Smeltz, Adjutant; and Charles A. Koppenhaver, Finance Officer. On Memorial Days, Valley View Post decorates the soldiers' graves in fourteen cemeteries located in Hegins, Hubley, Eldred and Mahantongo Twps.; at present 122 graves—2 Revolutionary War, 3 War of 1812, 102 Civil War, 1 Spanish-American War, and 14 World War. To make the rounds a distance of 46 miles is covered.

Hegins Grange, No. 1242

The Grange is the oldest general farm organization in the world and the only farmers' fraternity of its kind. It is a family organization, including young people and adults of both sexes, in its membership. It

stands for fraternity, education and social helpfulness. The organization is patriotic without being partisan; it has a high moral tone without religious bias; and it contributes in every way to a healthy, wholesome rural life.

Hegins Grange, No. 1242, Patrons of Husbandry, was organized Oct. 3, 1903, with 24 charter members, as follows: J. H. Dunkelberger, John Schrope, A. A. Schwalm, John Coleman, A. R. Artz, J. W. Kaufman, A. J. Stutzman, J. H. Baum, Elias Dunkelberger, H. W. Bressler, Brooke Bressler, John Hepler, Joel Reed, John Dunkelberger, C. F. Otto, A. H. Otto, W. H. Maurer, Fred Stutzman, John Stutzman, H. C. Klouser, Jane V. Schrope, Maud Coleman, Alice Dunkelberger and Mary Kaufman. Meetings were held on the first and the third Thursday of each month, in the Knights of the Golden Eagle Hall, now Maurer's Hall. In 1909 the old two-story grade school building was bought and the second story furnished for a meeting place. The membership grew rapidly, and at present, the Grange is one of the most active organizations in the community. Aside from the social, fraternal and educational functions, the Grange serves the farmers of the community in a business way. Elmer E. Schrawder is the Secretary and is in charge of the business end of the organization.

Hegins Park Association

The Hegins Park Association was organized in 1896. It is under the auspices of trustees elected by the various religious and social organizations of the town of Hegins. Its constitution and by-laws were prepared by John E. Sones, Calvin C. Kehler and Ed. E. Willier. The articles of incorporation and agreement granted by the Court were approved by the various organizations constituting the Association

Aug. 11, 14, 15, 16, 1896. The constitution provides that no intoxicating drinks may be sold on the grounds of the Association. The first Park Trustees elected by the various organizations were: A. E. Willier, of the I. O. O. F.; S. Calvin Geist, of the P. O. S. A.; Jesse D. Dinger, of the K. of G. E.; Jacob Geist, of the Friedens Sunday School, and John W. Heckert of the Evangelical Sunday School. On December 31, 1896, the trustees bought from John H. Baum, two acres of land on Pine Creek at the Good Spring road. Here for some years the annual picnics and camp meetings of the community were held.

The Association sold this park and bought from the Hegins Athletic Association their old park south of town. Here a dining house was erected, and various other improvements were made. For the past six years the Hegins Annual Home Coming celebration has been held in this park. This is always held on the Saturday and Sunday before Labor Day, and is the occasion when hundreds of former residents of Hegins and their descendants come home to revive old acquaintanceships. One of the unique features of this event is the Hegins "Home Coming Annual," a book of information of the Hegins Valley, its people, its history and its institutions.

Since the formation of the Association, other organizations have joined the Association. The trustees for 1934 are: Ray Dunkelberger, A. N. Maurer, Geo. W. Baum, George I. Minnich, Guy Geist, E. A. Schroepe, Mrs. E. E. Heckert and Jas. M. Willier.

On Nov. 27, 1933, the trustees bought from Sallie C. Huntzinger and A. B. Huntzinger, her husband, 6 acres and 128 perches of virgin forest adjoining the park. With the

aid of C. W. A. funds, the ground was cleaned of underbrush, a large dining hall and kitchen, and a large platform were erected; concrete supports for seats were placed, water mains were laid, and electric light connections were made. The park will be one of the social centers of western Schuylkill and will become the mecca for picnics, reunions, play activities, and outdoor educational and religious services. In 1934, children's play equipments, valued at \$500.00 were installed. By additional C. W. A. funds in 1935, a road connecting the old and the new sections of the park was constructed, tennis courts and other athletic fields were laid out. A covered stage was erected.

The Hegins Fire Co.

As early as 1920 the people of Hegins realized the benefits which would be derived from the maintenance of fire fighting equipments, so in that year several of the prominent citizens of town formed an organization with Philip M. Artz, Richard R. Artz and John W. Heckert, and others, as leaders. A charter was granted Oct. 15, 1923, under the incorporate name of Hegins Fire Company. The following officers were elected: Dr. F. P. Barnd, pres.; J. W. Heckert, vice pres.; G. W. Baum, secy.; R. R. Artz, treas.; P. M. Artz, A. E. Willier and H. D. Sausser, trustees. A second hand hose wagon was purchased from the Pottsville Fire Department at the cost of \$290. Their next step was to purchase 1,000 feet of fire hose. The total debt of \$920 was paid from donations given by the members of the organization. In 1925 the need of more modern fire fighting equipment was realized. A committee was appointed to get subscriptions from the town people in order that a new fire-engine might be purchased and that a building might be erected in which

the engine could be housed. In August, 1925, a new fire fighting equipment was purchased from the Buffalo Fire Apparatus Company, consisting of a 500 gallon pumper and 1000 feet of hose at a cost of \$7950. In October of that year, a lot was purchased from John Stutzman on the Good Springs road for \$500, on which the Fire House was later built. Work on the house was commenced, and it was completed in February, 1926, at an approximate cost of \$1,800. A \$550 siren was installed in the fall of 1926. The Hegins Fire Co. and the Valley View Fire Co. are supported by a 1-2 mill fire tax. The organization has a debt of \$1,400 on the fire house, which is to be paid by 1937. The Companies of Hegins Township have rendered valuable services in fighting fires, not only in the home communities but also in surrounding territory. Because of them and installation of fire hydrants, the fire insurance rates have been greatly reduced.

First National Bank of Hegins

The First National Bank of Hegins was organized in 1908, and was opened for business on April 17, 1908, with the following officers: Dr. F. P. Barnd, Pres.; J. W. Heckert, Vice Pres.; W. E. Harrington, Secy.; Valentine Quigel, Cashier. The directors were: Dr. F. P. Barnd, J. W. Heckert, R. R. Artz, S. E. Kessler, G. W. Baum, J. Irvin Miller, H. H. Geist, Dr. W. D. Karterman, W. E. Harrington, D. E. Kurtz, W. W. Haas and H. W. Bressler. The capital stock was \$50,000. The first statement to the Comptroller of Currency, on June 30, 1908, showed resources of approximately \$150,000.

In 1919, W. N. Snyder, M. W. Kessler, Grant Schoffstall, Dr. W. D. Karterman, B. W. Fees, J. W. Heckert, John Pfeiffer and S. R. Masser were elected as directors. The new

officers were: W. N. Snyder, Pres.; M. W. Kessler, Vice Pres.; Grant Schoffstall, Secy.; and Rufus Reed, Cashier. A marked upturn in business began in 1919 and the prosperity of the community was reflected in the growth of the bank, which soon had resources exceeding a million dollars. On March 15, 1923, John Schrope was elected president.

The bank was reorganized in 1934 as First National Bank of Hegins, with a capital stock of \$50,000 and a surplus of \$10,000, and opened Feb. 8, 1934. The present directors are: R. R. Artz, Irvin E. Artz, A. R. Artz, Thomas E. Herb, Francis Coleman, A. F. Geist, Robert C. Ludwig, Dr. I. E. Sausser, E. A. Schrope, M. G. Stump, C. F. Otto and J. M. Willier. The officers are: Dr. I. E. Sausser, Pres.; R. R. Artz, Vice Pres.; A. F. Geist, Secy.; Rufus Reed, Cashier, and H. W. Mayer, Assistant Cashier.

Hegins Water Company

The Hegins Water Co. was chartered in Philadelphia on Nov. 13, 1909, for the purpose of supplying water to the public in the Township of Hegins. The term of its corporate life is 999 years. The officers at the time of incorporation were: J. K. Williams, Pres.; E. R. Shollenberger, Secy.; J. W. Moyer, Treas.; and M. M. Dreiblebis, Engineer.

Shortly after the date of incorporation, the company built a small reservoir on the north side of the Broad Mountain, where they tapped a number of springs of pure mountain water. Water mains were laid from the reservoir and through the township from east to west, for a distance of about four miles. This main and supply pipes have been extended from time to time. At present there are 40,033 feet of pipe in operation, supplying water to 570 consumers in the villages of Hegins and Valley View and adjacent territory. A new reservoir was built in 1925 having a storage capacity of

1,250,000 gallons. The annual consumption is about 10 million gallons. The water shed owned and controlled by the Company contains 120 acres of mountain forest land.

The Company is owned and operated at present by the Delaware Valley Utilities Corporation, with offices in the Packard Building, Phila., of which John H. Ware, Jr., is the President, and L. J. Ostermoyer, L. T. Reinicker, C. J. McAbie and John H. Ware, 3d, are the directors. R. A. Schwalm is the Superintendent, with office at Valley View.

The Valley Citizen

The Valley Citizen, a weekly newspaper, was started Dec. 12, 1929, with the object of uniting the people of the five great agricultural townships of Schuylkill County, Hegins, Hubley, Barry, and Eldred and Mahantongo, and the adjacent territory in Dauphin and Northumberland Counties into a common citizenship. This territory has a population of 15,000, and the interests of the people, in industry, education, religion, and social life are very much the same. Equal opportunities for all is the motto of this latest venture in journalism in Schuylkill Co. J. Melvin Bolton, the owner-editor, has associated with him as regular contributors, Edwin Ziegler, Rev. Herman J. Naftzinger, L. E. Schrope, Solly Bressler, Bryant Weist, and a host of local correspondents.

East Penn P. & L. Company

A local electric light company was organized about fifteen years ago and furnished current for domestic use as well as for street lighting. The current was bought from the P. and R. C. and I. Co. generated at their large power plant at Good Spring Colliery. After five years of very successful operation, the East Penn bought the stock and rights of the

local company, maintaining an office at Valley View. In addition to furnishing light and power to nearly every home in Hegins Township, more than ten miles of its streets are lighted.

The Shirt Factories of Hegins

The first industrial plant in Hegins of which there is any record, was a shirt factory established about 1900, under the supervision of Mervine and David Kurtz. The factory occupied the second floor of a stable owned by J. F. H. Long, next to the Hegins Hotel on the present site of the Hegins Auto Co. Building. A small gasoline engine furnished the power to run the thirty machines, operated by young women of the community. Because the factory was considered a fire trap, it was closed in 1902. Later in the year, the second floor of the blacksmith shop, also owned by Mr. Long, was rented, and the machines were removed to that building. This blacksmith shop was situated just west of Raymond Artz's meat shop. Mr. Kurtz took over the management of the factory for two years. In 1904, John W. Heckert bought the factory rights from Kurtz and added ten machines to his factory system. Later in the year, Mr. Heckert invested \$5,000 and built a two-story frame building in which he planned to house his new factory. He replaced his old machines with forty new ones, operated by steam power. About 12 years later, Mr. Heckert sold the factory to Irvin Yoder. He in turn sold it to C. A. Updegrave, who installed electric motors to run the machines. Later, a wholesale shirt company from Phila. took possession of the factory, and in 1932, after the Hegins Manufacturing Co. got under way, it abandoned operation. In 1934, G. L. Bendigo bought the frame building and rebuilt it into a beautiful double dwelling house.

Hegins Manufacturing Co.

Due to the unemployment situation in Hegins, in 1932, Thomas Herb, proprietor of the Hegins Bakery; Mark Masser, partner in the Massers' store, and Dr. I. E. Sausser decided to establish a garment factory, in which they hoped to employ the women of unemployed families of the community. The trio purchased a plot of ground from J. H. Dunkelberger, on Second St., at Hegins, and constructed a one-story

frame building, 30 ft. by 60 ft., and equipped it with 48 electrically propelled machines. The management has weathered the storms of the depression so well, that even though the factory worked only half time, the management added 1800 sq. ft. more of floor space to their factory, and 32 machines. The factory is under the supervision of Archie Schadle. Shirts, dresses, babies' rompers and men's shorts are manufactured. About 85 persons, mostly young women, are employed.

Present Court House Dedicated In 1891

(From "Pottsville Republican"—"Morning Paper," March 25-26, 1935)

By **BURT J. HASENAUER**

The present Pottsville court house, minus the annex, was officially dedicated on Sept. 3, 1891, and is situated on the top of what formerly had been known as Pine Hill, and now as Court House Hill. It is of the Romanesque type of architecture, constructed entirely of Cleveland limestone. The ground dimensions of the building are 195 by 100 feet. The total cost of this structure was in the neighborhood of \$400,000 and presents a striking contrast to the \$321,000 annex recently dedicated and connected with the western end of the building.

Representative citizens from all parts of the county composed the large crowd that was in attendance at the ceremonies in 1891. The judges and the members of the Schuylkill County Courts and in addition, the members of the Bar, assembled in the main court room and then headed by Guy E. Farquhar proceeded down the steps to the main entrance of the building, where the Third Brigade Band was waiting. John Bowes, the janitor of the new building then unfurled a new flag while the band played "The Star Spangled Banner."

Following the flag raising the entire assembly returned to the inside of the building, and found seats in the main court room for the program. As a befitting token of the dedication of the building a life size floral figure of "Justice" occupied a place in the centre of the judge's bench. It was at exactly 2:27 that Court Crier Seitzinger

opened the first session of court in the new building, with Judges Pershing, Green and Bechtel in the seats of honor.

Hon. Cyrus L. Pershing, the president judge, made the opening address, followed by Judges Green and Bechtel. It was then that the address of the day was made by Guy E. Farquhar. The speaker told how the steady march of progress demanded that the building be erected to properly care for the increasing volume of business that was being done in the county. The population was steadily increasing and the county expanding.

During the construction of the new building, R. H. Koch, recently retired from the bench, was serving as District Attorney of the county, and by close watch upon the contractor in charge of the erection of the new building detected that materials were being used other than mentioned in the specifications. He had the contracting firm indicted, but passed out of office before the case could be called to trial. Dist. Atty. Ryan, who followed Judge Koch as the District Attorney took up the fight and had the case settled. The sum of \$20,000 was turned back to the taxpayers and the case was dropped. Since the building has been dedicated and placed into service several important changes have been made such as the installation of the present elevator, in addition to a room for the lawyers.

The Annex Dedicated

But even this court house outlived its usefulness. Sensing that within a very short time the administration of the county's business affairs would be seriously hampered unless more room was provided, Commissioners R. E. Brownmiller and Jas. R. Walton, Pottsville, Jas. H. Kirchner, Mahanoy City, let bids for an annex to the present building. On Sept. 12, 1930, the contract was formally awarded to the Nelson Pedley Construction Co. of Phila., at their bid of \$321,000. However, after doing the primary work, the firm went into the hands of receivers. After about six months, the Commissioners re-awarded the contract. This time it went to the E. R. Bastress Co. of Mt. Carmel. The building was completed and ready for occupancy in Sept. 1932, but due to an injunction entered by the Wilkinson Equipment Co., of Phila., unsuccessful bidders for the furniture and equipment for the annex, the formal opening was withheld for many months at a terrific cost to the county. The Bastress bid for completing the job was \$195,682. The building is 105 feet long and 83 feet wide, and is erected of Indiana limestone. It was dedicated on March 11, 1934. 1933

First Court House at Orwigsburg

In speaking about the court house it must not be forgotten that Orwigsburg was the first county seat of the county. That was before the expansion took place. It is only several years ago that efforts were being made to remove the court house to Frackville from its present place. However this fell by the wayside.

The first court ever held in the county was held at the tavern of Abraham Reiffschneider (Reifsnyder) in Orwigsburg. The first court house was erected in this borough

in 1815. It was of brick, two stories high, and about forty by fifty feet. The court room was on the first floor, and the jury rooms together with the public offices on the second floor. The cost of the building was \$5,000. The first term of court was held in it in the spring of 1816. A bell was presented by Samuel Bell of Reading, and it still hangs in the turret of the building. The bell bears the inscription of Thos. W. Levering, founder, Phila., 1817.

In 1827, a building for public offices was erected. It was built of brick, about thirty feet to the rear of the court house, and was of the same dimensions. It contained two fireproof vaults. In 1846 an extension was added to the court house, filling the space between it and the public offices, thus converting the whole into one building. By the terms of the Act of the Legislature, removing the court house or county seat from Orwigsburg to Pottsville, the public buildings in Orwigsburg were to be held by the borough for school purposes. In 1854, an academy called the Arcadian Institute was established, and the court house was used for this school. The institute having failed an act was passed by the Legislature in 1870, appointing S. R. Medlar, Christian Berger and S. H. Maddon as commissioners to sell or lease the old court house and public offices. In accordance with the provisions of this act these commissioners in 1873 leased this building for the term of 99 years to the Orwigsburg Shoe Manufacturing Co.

Second Court House Erected

The second court house was erected at Pottsville. A lot was purchased between Second and Third Sts., from the estate of George Farquhar, and the work of demolishing the buildings thereon and making the necessary excavations was entered on in October of 1849. Con-

tributions in work and material as well as money, were received, and all the work was done under the superintendence of Isaac Severn. The total cost of the structure including a bell weighing 623 pounds and a town clock was \$30,000. The building was 123 by 37 feet, two stories high. The second story was divided into a large court room 87 1-2 feet by 54 feet and 21 feet in height, together with four jury rooms, a consultation room and a library.

The judges of the court, in May 1851 certified to the commissioners the satisfactory condition of the court house, and in December, 1851, the grand inquest reported the new court house in every way was satisfactory. The removal of the public records from Orwigsburg to this house was completed December 1, 1851. But even this structure, which was the second court house of the county proved to be too small and a third was erected, which is the one now standing as a sentinel on the hill overlooking Pottsville. When this building was dedicated on Sept. 3, 1892 it was the claim of the press at that time that the building was inferior to none in the state outside of those in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Not counting the height of the clock tower, the building is five stories high. At the time of the opening, the interior was handsomely finished in natural red oak; the offices were elegantly furnished and well equipped with vaults and contained every facility for preserving the records of the county. The whole building was well heated from two thirty horsepower engines in the basement.

Kept Prisoners In Tavern Cellar

Prior to the erection of a jail in Orwigsburg in 1814, prisoners were kept in the cellar of the Reiffschneider tavern. This cellar was made in the side of a declivity and a

stump was left at one end. To this stump a ring was attached by a staple and slippery prisoners were fastened to it. The stump with the ring attached remained until 1850. This cellar proving insufficient, a portion of Judge Rausch's house was used for the same purpose, and there, it is said, prisoners were sometimes fastened to the ring in one of the apartments.

The first jail was built in 1814 by Jacob, George and Peter Kutz. It was of field stone, about thirty-two feet square, and two stories in height. By a subsequent addition its length was made some seventy-five or eighty feet. Some years since in accordance with the provisions of the act of removal, it was converted into a schoolhouse.

The act for the removal of the seat of justice to Pottsville provided for the erection of a prison at the expense of the county in Pottsville. Early in the year 1850 the commissioners commenced preparations for carrying out this provision of the law. Four lots on Market St. were purchased, for a site at the cost of \$7,000, and a water lot was bought in for \$5,000. Plans, specifications and estimates were made and work commenced on the building lot, and a reservoir was constructed on the water lot. In January 1851 the site on Market St. was exchanged for that on which the prison now stands, in the rear of the court house, on Sanderson St. A new plan by N. LeBrun, the architect for the prison, was adopted, and the work was commenced in the spring of 1851. This building now stands as the bastile where the county confines those who are exiled from society. There are 113 cells contained in the building. Each cell can house two persons. The cells are lighted with electricity, which mode of lighting replaces the old style of kerosene lamps. Shower baths have been installed and re-

place the one shower that formerly sufficed to cleanse the prison population.

The prison built under the supervision of LeBrun cost \$70,000, and contained 38 cells. In 1852 it was accepted by the county, and the sheriff was ordered to transfer the prisoners from Orwigsburg. In 1876 this prison was greatly enlarged and improved, with the capacity being trebled, with the interior arrangement being modernized and strengthened. With the new addition it contained 86 cells, besides the six dungeons in the cellar, bringing the cell capacity up to 124. The length of the structure is in the neighborhood of 500 feet, with a jail yard enclosure of over two and a half acres. The cells are nine by 14 feet, and 10 feet high, and are steam heated. The cost of the addition was \$116,582. The building includes comfortable quarters for the warden and his family, as well as a hospital. Connected with the prison is the county detention house, where juvenile delinquents are kept until their cases are heard. There is also a large building in the middle of the eastern court yard, equipped with cells, and may be used for an emergency hospital or any other desirable purpose. For several years contraband beer, whiskey and alcohol seized by the State Police were stored there. In the basement of this building the laundry is located.

Pottsville Centrally Located

The reason for the removal of the court house to Pottsville from Orwigsburg was due to the fact that the latter place was more centrally located in the county. As early as 1831 the removal of the seat of justice was agitated. A meeting was held in the Exchange Hotel in Pottsville, on November 11, 1831, at which it was set forth that the location of the seat of gov-

ernment be changed to Pottsville. A committee was appointed, consisting of Benjamin Pott, Burd Patterson, Thomas Sillyman, Jacob Seitzinger and John C. Offerman, to solicit subscriptions to defray the expense of erecting the buildings. On December 3, 1831, the committee reported that sufficient funds had been received for the purpose. The citizens of Orwigsburg were equally vigilant. A mass meeting was held at the court house in that town on January 21, 1832, and resolutions were adopted opposing and denouncing the project, and arranged to stay the progress of the movement. The question of the removal then was left quiet for a period of 10 years, to be revived again on the establishment of railroad communication between Pottsville and Phila. But the subject ended then without definite action. In the compliance with the prayer of many petitions, the Legislature passed an act concerning the removal of the county seat to Pottsville, and the Act was approved by the Governor on March 13, 1847. It provided for the submitting of the question at issue to the voters. The Act also set out that unless the citizens of Pottsville should erect or cause to be erected within three years, suitable buildings of brick or stone, for a court house and public offices, no removal should take place. The Act further provided for the erection of a new jail at the expense of the public, in recognition of the increasing needs of the county.

William F. Sanders, August Holmes, Joseph F. Taylor, James B. Levan and Joseph Fertig were named in the Act as the commissioners to select and procure a suitable site in Pottsville to erect the court house. Pending the election of 1847, an aggressive and somewhat turbulent speaking cam-

paigned was inaugurated and prosecuted up until the day of the election. Each side used every resource at its command to arouse local pride, prejudice and personal interest, thus engendering a rivalry between the two towns which required years to break down. But it was a self evident fact that the center of the population was nearer Pottsville, and that the interests of the people would be best served by the removal of the county seat of government to Pottsville. The result of the election showed that there were 35,551 for the removal, and 3,092 against it.

In accordance with the expressed will of the people, the work of the Pottsville citizenry interested in bringing the county seat within its borders was pushed rapidly forward. On February 1, 1848, a meeting of the citizens was held, and Solomon Foster, Samuel Sillyman, Samuel Thompson, William Major and Abraham Miesse were constituted a committee to superintend the construction of the court house. The commissioners named a site, practically the same site as now occupied by the court house, it being on the estate of the late George W. Farquhar, at the corner of Second and Harrison Sts. In October, 1849, the work of excavating began. The committee solicited contributions of labor and materials, as well as cash, and under the supervision of Isaac Severn, the work was completed and approved by the judges of the court in May, 1851, and was reported in every way satisfactory by the Grand Inquest in the following December. The building was of brick and was two stories in height. The removal of the public records from Orwigsburg was completed on the 1st of December, 1851, on which date the first court in the building was held, with the first president judge of the county,

Charles W. Hegins, presiding. He was elected under the constitutional amendment of 1850. His associates were Judges Solomon Foster and Francis S. Hubley.

The Earliest Court Sessions

Dealing with the records of the county when it was divorced from Berks County, it is shown that the county had a width of 24½ miles, and a length of 30 miles, containing in all, about 745 square miles. The first court held in the county was conducted in the east room of the house of Abraham Reiffschneider (then as since, a tavern) on the third Monday of December, 1811. Judge Porter, of the Third Judicial District, consisting of Wayne, Schuylkill, Berks and Northampton Counties, presided at this court, and George Rausch, with Daniel Green sat as associate justices. The sheriff at the time was William Green, the first the county ever had. The attorneys admitted to practice at this time were George Wolfe, Charles Evans, Fred Smith, William Witman, James B. Hubley, John Spayd, John W. Collins, M. J. Biddle, Samuel Baird and John Ewing.

Frederick Hesser was the court crier of the court, which continued to be held at this house. He had been a drummer boy in the Revolutionary War, and he was accustomed to announce the assembling of the court by beating his drum under the court room window.

A story is told from the records that Orwigsburg had plenty of competition in securing the county seat of government in the first place, as it was opposed by Schuylkill Haven and McKeansburg, with claims being nearly evenly balanced. It is said by historians that Peter Frailey, Daniel Graeff, John Kobb, John Dreher and Philip Hoy and others induced mill owners

and others operating saw mills on the Mahannan Creek, which runs near the borough, to detain the water in the mill ponds for a while. When the commissioners appointed by the Governor to select the site came around to inspect at Orwigsburg, that the gates were to be pulled, and the waters released to leave a most favorable impression. This plan was followed, and at a given signal (the blowing of a horn) the flood gates were hoisted, and the stream, swollen in consequence, so strongly impressed the commissioners with the manufacturing facilities of the place that they decided in its favor.

Coroners

The first coroner to be elected was Emil Luks, M. D., 1886; B. C. Guldin, M. D., 1889; D. S. Marshall, M. D., 1895; G. A. Bleiler, M. D., 1898; A. L. Gillars, M. D., 1901, re-elected 1904; Louis F. Donahue, M. D., 1907; Geo. H. Moore, M. D., 1911, re-elected in 1915; G. O. O. Santee, elected in 1919, and re-elected in 1923; Dr. T. C. Fegley, of Tremont, elected 1926, and re-elected in 1931.

County Solicitors

This is an important appointive office under the jurisdiction of the county commissioners. The office seems to have existed in this county prior to 1817. "The Bench and Bar of Pennsylvania" states that John W. Roseberry was the first county solicitor, and that he received the munificent salary of \$16 for a year's services. His successors have been in order of appointment: Jas. B. Hubley, 1817-1819; John W. Roseberry, 1820-21; Geo. Taylor, 1822-24; John Bannan, 1825-30; Wm. B. Potts, 1840-45; John Bannan, 1846-49; C. Tower was appointed in 1857, but resigned the position; John Bannan served in 1850-51; Robert M. Palmer, 1852; John Bannan, 1853-56; F. W. Hughes,

1857-58; T. F. Bannan, 1859-65; Chas. D. Hipple, 1866-68; Geo. De B. Keim, 1869-71.

The office of county solicitor was later made elective, and F. W. Bechtel was elected in 1872-74; Horace M. Darling, 1875-77; Jas. F. Minogue, 1878-80.

The office again, became appointive by the commissioners as it is today, and following will be found the order of appointment to date: W. J. Whitehouse, 1881-82; A. W. Schalck, 1882-85; W. J. Whitehouse, 1885-86; D. C. Henning, 1886-88; Jas. F. Minogue, 1888-93; B. W. Cumming Jr., 1893-94; John O. Ulrich, 1894-97; Chas. E. Berger, 1897-98; Harry O. Bechtel, 1898-1900; Chas. A. Snyder, 1900-06; A. W. Schalck, 1906-1910. C. A. Snyder followed the late Mr. Schalck in the office, and held it until 1927, when Chas. E. Berger, defeated for judge, was appointed. R. M. Bashore was appointed in 1932.

Treasurers

The first treasurer of Schuylkill County was Daniel Graeff, who was elected in 1812; John Hammer, 1815; Jacob Huntzinger, 1818-22; John Schall, 1819, 1825, 1832; Jos. Hammer, 1828; Jos. Ottinger, 1834; John M. Bickel, 1838; Jacob Huntzinger, 1840; Henry Shoemaker, 1844; Henry Krebs, 1846; B. C. Christ, 1848; F. B. Kaercher, 1850; Geo. D. Boyer, 1852; Isaac Ward, 1854; Samuel K. M. Kepner, 1856; Wm. Bickel, 1858; Jas. R. Clover, 1860; Joseph H. Richards, 1862; Henry J. Hendler, 1854; Wm. B. Rady, 1866; Conrad Seltzer, 1868; Edward Bradley, 1870; Geo. A. Harring, 1872; Daniel Barlow, 1874; Cyrus Moore, 1876; Louis Stoffregen, 1878; Louis Blass, 1884; Michael Whalen, 1887, died in office; Thos. Pepper, 1890; D. D. Dechert, 1893; Elias Davis, 1896; Gustave A. Doerflinger, 1899; F. C. Noonan, 1902; R. E. Lee, 1905; Frank Palmer, 1908; Fred Weist, 1911; W. R. Adamson,

1915; Dr. Christian Gruhler, 1919; Dr. Geo. S. Hensyl, 1923; Robert E. Jenkins, 1926 and P. W. Houck, 1931.

Clerk Of Courts

The office of Clerk of Courts was combined with that of Prothonotary until 1857. Since the office was established the incumbents were: Chas. A. Rahn, James Glenn, Chas. F. Rahn, O. J. Aregood, Daniel Duffy, John J. Toole, Alvin J. Shortall, John T. Shoener, Jas. McElhenny, Fred Freudenberger, all serving two terms. Geo. W. Gearhart, elected in 1924, reelected in 1927 and died while in office. S. Frank Williams was appointed by the Governor to serve the unexpired term and was elected in 1931 without any opposition.

Recorders

The office of Recorder of Deeds was created a separate office in 1857. The first citizen to be elected to the new office was Levi Huber, 1857; Dennis Maher, 1860; Benj. F. Griffith 1863; Martin Schaefer, 1866; Ernst F. Jungkurth, 1869; Jacob J. Weber, 1872; Adam Hartwig, 1875; John A. Reilly, 1878; W. C. Haeussler, 1882; A. J. Shortall, 1885; J. H. Levan, 1888; Henry Scheurman, 1891-1904; Samuel Jenkyn, 1897; J. H. Nichter, 1900-1903; C. F. Folmer, 1906; re-elected in 1906; Samuel S. Bailey, 1909; re-elected in 1912; Jos. F. Carr, 1916; re-elected 1923; Peter J. Cuff, elected 1923; Wm. Williams elected 1927; re-elected in 1931.

County Commissioners

The County Commissioners were: Abraham Angstadt, John Ruth and John Zebner, 1811; John Hammer, Conrad Kershner and Geo. Kimmel, 1812; Geo. Orwig, 1813; Benj. Christ, 1814; Straub and Christopher Boyer, 1815; Daniel Focht, 1816; Christian Brobst, 1817; Jacob Hehn, 1818; Philip Fegley, 1819; John Pott and Abraham Reif-

schneider, 1820; John Seltzer, 1822; John Reed and Abraham Angstadt, 1823; John Gehner, 1824; Henry Shoemaker, 1825; Ludwig Berber, 1826; John Matz, 1827; Henry Ege and Samuel Haine, 1829; David Turner, 1831; Geo. Reed, 1832; Wm. Mortimer, 1833; John Brans, 1834; John Shoener, 1835; Philip Ossman, 1836; Adam Focht, 1837; Abraham Boughner and Benj. Pott, 1838; Benj. Lantzer and Edward O'Connor, 1839; Geo. Seitzinger and Geo. Boyer, 1841; Samuel R. Medler, 1842; Geo. Mose, 1843; Henry Zimmerman, 1844; Frederick Beck and Wm. Wagner, 1845; Geo. H. Stichter, 1846; Lewis Dreher, 1847; Isaac Betz, 1848; Wm. Frailey, 1849; Michael Fritz, 1850; Thos. Foster, 1851; Geo. Hartline, 1852; Jacob Kline and Isaac Straub, 1853; Andrew H. Wilson, 1855; David Lingle, 1856; Philip Boyer, 1857; Edw. O'Connor, 1858; Samuel Kaufman, 1859; Evan J. Thomas, 1860; Daniel B. Althouse, 1861; Robert Wall and Edw. O'Connor, 1862; David Foley and Chas. Springer, 1863; Elijah Zeigler, 1864; Benj. Evart and Geo. Wilson, 1866; Edw. Kerns, 1867; Patrick Dormer, 1868; Peter Miller, 1870; Valentine Benner, 1872; Moses Hine, 1873; Patrick Conroy, 1874; Morgan W. Fehr, Lewis Blass and Patrick Collins, 1875; Samuel Garret, Daniel Boyer and A. J. Shortall, 1878; Daniel Boyer, John Leahy and N. J. Shortall, 1881; John C. Callery, John Leonard, 1884; J. Oliver Roads and Geo. Evans in 1885, in place of Callery and Evans; Samuel DeTurk and J. J. Bowers and Thos. Mayer, 1887; they were re-elected in 1890; Frank A. Rentz, Chas. E. Allen and J. P. Martin, 1893; Charles Meyers and F. A. Rentz, 1896; H. F. Reber, F. R. Kantner and Geo. Opie, 1889; and re-elected in 1902; P. J. Boyle, L. J. Brown and H. C. Gardner, 1905; H. C. Garnder, W. F. Crone

and P. J. Boyle, 1908; B. J. Smith, E. C. Brobst and P. J. Boyle, 1911; E. C. Brobst, B. J. Smith and Thos. McDonald, 1915; Mr. Smith died while in office, and W. S. Leib was appointed to fill the vacancy; W. R. Adamson, Jos. Davenport and P. J. Cuff, 1919; Jos. Davenport, Wm. James and Roy Brownmiller, 1923; James R. Walton, James H. Kirchner and Roy E. Brownmiller, 1927; Wm. R. Adamson, Jas. H. Kirchner and Roy E. Brownmiller in 1931.

Registers

Register of Wills, clerk of Orphans' Court and recorders were combined until 1887. Under the combination the registers were: Jas. McFarland, elected in 1811; Philip Frailey, 1818; Jacob Dreibelbies, 1819; Francis B. Nichols, 1821; Peter Frailey, 1824; Chas. Frailey, 1831; Samuel Huntzinger, 1833; Jos. Morgan, 1836; Jacob Hammer, 1838; Jacob Krebs, 1840; John H. Downing, 1842; Samuel Guss, 1845; Daniel Kercher, 1848; Lewis Reeser, 1851; Joshua Boyer, 1854.

The first register of wills and clerk of Orphans' Court was Jacob Feger, elected in 1857; Jos. Bowen, 1860; Adolph Dohrmann, 1863; Chas. McGee, 1869; Benj. F. Crawshaw, 1872; Richard Rahn, 1875-1881; Jas. C. Purcell, 1881; Geo. W. Johnson, 1884; Samuel Beard, 1887-1893; Chas. C. Matten, 1893; Frank C. Reese, 1896; Charles L. Adams, 1899; Thos. S. Herb, 1902; Henry H. Seltzer, 1905; Thos. S. Herb, 1908; Henry H. Seltzer, 1911; Frank Ball, 1915; Frank Ball re-elected, 1919 and Nathan Lutz, 1923, re-elected and died July 29, 1931. Tallisen Jenkins, the chief deputy, was appointed by the court and served as Register of Wills until the office was taken over by Robert E. Jenkins who was elected in 1931.

Prothonotaries

The first prothonotary was Jas. McDonald, who was elected in 1811. Those who followed were: Philip Frailey, 1817; Jacob Driebelbies, 1819; Henry W. Conrad, 1821; Peter Frailey, 1824; Jacob Hammer, 1827; Lewis Audenreid, 1836; George Rahn, 1839; Chas. Frailey, 1842; re-elected in 1860; Christian M. Straub, 1845; Thomas Mills, 1848; John Harlan, 1851; Samuel Huntzinger, 1854; Daniel H. Shoener, 1857; Joseph M. Feger, 1863; Thos. J. McCamant, 1866; Wm. J. Matz, 1860; Hiram Moyer, 1872; Thos. F. Kerns, 1875; re-elected in 1878; William J. McCarthy, 1881; re-elected in 1884; M. P. Brennan, 1887; S. C. Kirk, 1890; Jas. R. Deegan, 1893 to 1896; Wm. S. Leib, 1899; Samuel H. Gore, 1902; was re-elected; John Reese, 1909, re-elected; J. B. Walton, 1916, re-elected; Robert Bostock, 1923; Wm. J. Evans elected 1928 and re-elected in 1931.

Sheriffs

The sheriffs have been as follows: Wm. Green, 1811; Frederick Hesser, 1814; Benj. Christ, 1817; Geo. Rahn, 1820, and re-elected in 1821; Matthias Dreher, 1823; died in office, and John Rausch appointed to fill vacancy; Samuel Huntzinger, 1825; Chas. Frailey, 1828; Henry Rausch, 1834; Peter Ludwig, 1837; T. J. Wollison, 1840; Jeremiah Reed, 1843; John T. Werner, 1846; Christian M. Straub, 1849; James Nagle, 1852; William Martz, 1855; John P. Hobart, 1858; John Rausch, 1861; Michael Horan, 1864; Geo. C. Wynkoop, 1867; Chas. W. Pitman, 1870; James I. Pitman, 1871; J. Frank Werner, 1874; Wm. J. Matz, 1877; Michael J. Scanlon, 1880; C. J. Meade, 1881; Monroe Boyer, 1882; B. J. Duffy, 1885; Andrew Comrey, 1888; Joseph Woll, 1891; Alex Scott, 1894; John J. Toole, 1897; Roland Beddall, 1900; T. J. Whitaker, 1903;

Clay Evans, 1906; T. J. Murphy, 1909; (four year term commences here) C. F. Ditchey, 1913; Jos. W. Wyatt, 1917; Robert E. Jenkins, who was elected in 1921; Gordon Nagle, 1925; Philip Ehrig, 1929; Thos. John Evans, of Coaldale, elected in 1933 and took office January 1934.

District Attorneys

The district attorney's office was created in 1850. Prior to that time it was known as Deputy Attorney General. The district attorneys have been as follows: Robert M. Palmer, 1850; Charlemagne Tower, 1853; Thos. H. Walker, 1856; Howell Fisher, 1859; Franklin B. Gowen, 1862; (resigned in 1864, and Guy E. Farquhar served the balance of the term, he being appointed); James Ellis, 1865; Charles D. Hipple, 1868; Jas. B. Reilly, 1871; George R. Kaercher, 1874; Adolph W. Schalck, 1877; Jos. H. Pomeroy, 1880; J. Harry James, 1883; W. John Whitehouse, 1886; Richard H. Koch, 1889; James W. Ryan, 1892; E. W. Bechtel, 1895; B. W. Cumming, elected in 1898; resigned and Mr. Bechtel continued in office until M. P. McLoughlin was elected in 1899; Chas. E. Berger, 1902; I. A. Reed, 1905; Wm. Lyons, 1908; C. A. Whitehouse, 1911; and re-elected in 1915; C. M. Palmer, elected in 1919 and re-elected in 1923. He resigned in 1925

after he had been elected to Congress. M. H. Spicker was appointed and served until C. A. Snyder was elected in 1927 and re-elected in 1931, only to die before the tenure of his first term had expired. The court then appointed L. E. Enterline to fill the vacancy the latter part of 1931. In 1933, Dist. Atty. Enterline was elected and took office in January 1934.

County Executions

The following is a list of persons who were executed: At Orwigsburg—John Zimmerman, Sept. 30, 1824; a negro named Riggs, 1842. At Pottsville—Jos. Brown, Mar. 21, 1875; Thos. Duffy, June 21, 1877; Jas. Carroll, June 21, 1877; Jas. Roarity, June 21, 1877; Jas. Boyle, June 21, 1877; Thos. Munley, June 21, 1877; Dannje Donnelly, June 11, 1878; John Kehoe, Dec. 18, 1878; Martin Bergan, Jan. 16, 1879; Peter Baroski, Oct. 23, 1889; Harry Manfred, Aug. 7, 1894; Thos. Brennan, Feb. 15, 1900; Chas. Wartzel, Mar. 12, 1908; Felix Radzius, May 26, 1908; Jos. Christock, Mar. 30, 1911.

Those persons electrocuted were: Mike Lewissa, April 10, 1916; Dominick Digigso, Dec. 4, 1916; Henry Lisowski, June 19, 1922; Alvarez Miquel, Mar. 25, 1929; Peter Spirellis, June 29, 1931.

The Medical Profession In Schuylkill Co.

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Compiled by E. L. CLIFFORD

In the compilation of the medical profession history of Schuylkill County, a recent paper prepared by Merchant C. Householder, M. D., of Pottsville, Pa., proved to be a valuable source of information, and quotations are frequently used herewith. He prefaced his remarks by saying, "Medicine in Schuylkill County began, as it did in all other counties of Penna., from the entrance of the Red Man."

"The Indian knew the importance of keeping the skin, kidneys and bowels properly functioning, hence the use of the geyser, the warm spring and the sweat oven. These were his means of taking a Turkish bath. Emesis or catharsis followed by a vapor bath and cold plunge, augmented by a dose of willow bark decoction (salicin) were the North American Indian's successful treatment in fevers and ague.

"In rheumatism, a vapor bath and snake root were his sheet anchors. He also, like the 'ancient Babylonians,' had a fixed time for the ritual emesis and catharsis, as, for instance, the green corn feast, such as our forefathers had zodiacal calendars for blood letting.

"We find that one of the earliest men to practice medicine in what is now Schuylkill County, of which we have any record, is Dr. Stoy who was born in Hebron, Germany, coming to America the second time in 1767, locating in Lebanon, Pa., his practice extending into Pine Grove Valley, which later became part of

Schuylkill County. He became famous as having a cure for hydrophobia. George Washington says in his diary that he sent his servant, Christopher to him to be treated for the bite of a wild animal in 1797, giving him \$25 for his expenses. Dr. Stoy also kept abreast of the times by vaccinating for smallpox, although there was great prejudice against it, as an attempt to thwart Providence. He died in 1801. Eight years later his widow had the remedy patented in Washington, D. C., one of the first patents granted in this country for any medical remedy.

"Dr. James McFarland located in Orwigsburg in 1811. He was appointed the first County Recorder by Governor of the State.

"Along about 1820 to 1825, Dr. Joseph Robins, of Elysburg, Northumberland Co., came regularly into the northern part of Schuylkill.

"Dr. Ben. Becker, 1833, became first steward at the county almshouse.

"Dr. D. Hunter, Tamaqua, in 1835 was largely instrumental in establishing free schools for Tamaqua.

"From about 1825 to 1844 we find there were thirty-three doctors located in the county."

(Letters from Dr. James S. Carpenter to his brother, Thos. P. Carpenter, Esq., giving much of interest from 1829 to 1843 are found in the latter end of the Medical History.)

"The following physicians are noted prior to 1844 in the county:

Cecil Berryman, M. D., from Engl'd;

Geo. H. Brandter, M. D., from Germany;

Jas. S. Carpenter, 1829, from N. J.;
Geo. Halberstadt, M. D., from Phila.;
E. E. Bland, M. D., from Berks Co.;
G. W. Brown, M. D., from Sunbury,
located in Port Carbon;

J. G. Koehler, M. D., from Phila.,
located in Sch. Haven;

J. F. Treichler, M. D., from Bucks
Co., located in McKeansburg;

K. Robinson, M. D., from Lancaster
Co., located in Pine Grove;

J. Christ, M. D., from Reading, lo-
cated in Pine Grove.

John Kitzmiller, M. D.;

———Holmes, M. D.;

L. M. Christ, M. D.;

Geo. N. Eckert, M. D., Pine Grove;

D. L. Schultz, Auburn, M. D.;

Benj. Becker, 1833, M. D.;

B. F. Shannon, M. D.;

Edward Huntzinger, Sch. Haven;

———Kugler, 1830, S. Haven, M. D.;

D. H. Hains, M. D., Friedensburg.

A new Minute Book started about
1844 contains the following mem-
bers:

Geo. H. Halberstadt, Jas. S. Car-
penter, Thos. Brady, Jno. G. Koeh-
ler, G. W. Brown, G. W. Knobel, S.
Morton Zulich, Samuel H. Shannon,
Robt. Phillips, W. Housel, Enos
Chichester, Lewis Royer, David J.
McKibbin, Anthony Glegerff, Thos.
P. L. Ebur, J. C. McWilliams, B. F.
Shannon, R. H. Coryell, John T.
Nicholas, Saml. Berluchy, R. Leon-
ard, I. W. Gibbs, Saml. Medlar, Danl.
A. Ulrich, Jacob F. Treichler, T. B.
Hale, Minersville; Wm. Appleby,
Pottsv.; Charles M. Steinberger,
Middleport; O. M. Robins, Llew-
ellyn; E. Hance, Port Carbon; A.
Howell Halberstadt, Pottsv.; Jos. H.
Wythes, Pt. Carbon; Wm. P. Marr,
Tamaqua; I. Shope, Lower Mahan-
tongo; Nathaniel F. Derr, Donald-
son; I. B. Brandt, Friedensburg;
John T. Carpenter, Pottsv.; Wm. W.
Wythes, St. Clair; P. R. Palm, Sch.
Haven; J. I. Wright, Middleport;

Francis I. Kern, Pottsv.; Henry R.
Silliman, St. Clair; W. W. McGui-
gan, Tamaqua; J. Alfred Jones, Don-
aldson; John H. Yocum, Ashland; S.
B. Howell, Minersville; W. T. Birch,
Minersville; D. Webster Bland, of
Pottsv.; C. P. Henryton; Theo. A.
Helwig, Minersville; Theo. B. Castle,
New Phila.; Chas. T. Palmer, Pottsv.;
G. L. Reagan, Shenandoah; Jos. W.
Bird, Tremont; Edw. Huntzinger,
Sch. Haven; John G. C. Swaving,
Pottsv.; Fred. Kreckler, Cressona;
Chas. E. Quail, Auburn; J. B. Mc-
Bride, St. Clair; Geo. B. H. Swayze,
Mah. City; L. M. Thompson, Mah.
City; I. W. Donges, Donaldson; Geo.
F. Brendle, Mah. City; Phaeon Her-
many, Mah. City; E. K. Weber, Mah.
City; Wm. H. Wenrich, Mah. City;
P. H. Shultz, Shenandoah; W. C.
Rooke, Shenandoah; L. W. Prevost,
Tremont; Geo. W. Saylor, Tamaqua;
H. I. Rentschler, Ringtown; Philip
Weber, Mah. City; W. B. Sherman,
Girardville; I. Hunter; C. S. Salli-
day; B. F. Solliway, Tamaqua; R. S.
Chrisman, Pottsv.; I. H. Kauffman,
Minersville; Uriah Long, Tamaqua;
Wm. R. Owens, Ashland; Jas. I. Yo-
cum, Ashland; Geo. Yeomans, Ash-
land; P. G. Fergus, Ashland; B. C.
Guldin, Tamaqua; Jos. Baur, Tama-
qua; E. H. Kistler, Tamaqua; W. H.
Senderling, Pt. Carbon; Irwin S.
Koser, Tremont.

Allopathic Physicians Organize

"Pottsville, Jan. 15, 1845, allo-
pathic physicians of county met in
Penna. Hall; took preliminary steps
to form a medical society. Feb. 22,
a permanent organization was ef-
fected, with the following officers:
Pres., Geo. Halberstadt, M. D.; Vice
Pres., Jas. S. Carpenter, M. D.;
Secy., John G. Koehler, M. D.; Cor.
Secy., Wm. Housel, M. D.; Treas.,
C. T. Palmer, M. D. The original
members were: Drs. Geo. Halber-
stadt, Jas. S. Carpenter, Thos.
Brady, G. H. Knobel, Wm. Housel,
Enos Chichester, of Pottsville; John

G. Koehler, Saml. Shannon, Sch. Haven; S. Morton Zulick, Orwigsburg; R. H. Phillips, New Castle.

"This society took part in forming the State Medical Society at Lancaster, April, 1848, and has been represented in every meeting of that society ever since, and holding offices of prominence as follows: Dr. Jas. S. Carpenter, pres. in 1855; Geo. Halberstadt, vice pres. in 1855; Dr. John T. Carpenter in 1878 and rec. secy. in 1860, and Dr. R. S. Chrisman, 1875.

"Dr. J. G. Koehler, Sch. Haven, gained fame by 'Triple Amputations,' and it was noted by Dr. Gross in his 'System of Surgery' as follows: 'But the most remarkable case of this kind of which I have any knowledge, occurred in 1847, at Sch. Haven, in the practice of Dr. J. G. Koehler, who removed simultaneously on account of a railroad injury, both legs and one arm without an anaesthetic, recovery taking place without result.'"

The Constitution of the "Regular Physicians of Schuylkill County" as assembled in Penn Hall, Jan. 15, adjourned to Feb. 22, when the title was made permanently "The Sch. Co. Medical Society," the object being to cultivate correct and kind feeling toward each other, and to improve knowledge pertaining to medicine as a science.

April 1, 1848, the following were proposed as new members: Drs. Gould, McWilliams, Conville, Hale, Steward, Ulrich, Speck, Steinberger, McKibbin.

Oct. 10 1848, at a special meeting, the following new members were nominated: Drs. Higgins, Chichester, Creary, Phillips, Tweed, Wiley, Robinson, Hunter, Treichler, Medlar, Robbins, and all were elected.

Jan. 3, 1849, Drs. Lewis, Royer and McGuigan were nominated.

Jan. 8, 1849, Dr. Halberstadt delegate to State Medical Society, Reading.

Jan. 2, 1850, resolutions passed depriving a member of access to the society if he was found guilty of injuring the profession.

Oct. 2, 1850, each member requested to keep accurate records of every birth and death, and report same to the society at the end of each year. A committee was appointed to draft resolutions on the death of their late vice pres., Dr. Thos. N. Brady.

Election resulted in following officers: Dr. J. S. Carpenter, pres.; Dr. E. Chichester, vice pres.; Dr. Heger, secy.; Dr. Halberstadt, treas.; Dr. Housel, cor. secy.

April 2, 1851, delegates were instructed to use influence at State Medical Society to have a State Examination of all those desirous of practicing medicine.

Jan. 7, 1852, a committee on the Fee Bill made their report, and same was adopted. At a Nov. meeting, Dr. Halberstadt submitted a suppositious case, in which a person of good constitution, young and robust, by accident had the forearm completely denuded, exposing cellular tissue, fascis and muscles, the skin being totally destroyed, the blood vessels intact; he stated that every effort should be employed to preserve the arm, citing many cases in support of his view, such as extensive covering of skin following accidents.

Mar. 2, 1853, Dr. Housel submitted extensive resolutions that when one member of this Society "thinks he has cause for complaint against another, it shall be the duty of the aggrieved party to make known personally to the other in a pacific manner, the nature of the charge entertained; if this does not lead to a mutual explanation and a

reconciliation, then the matter be laid before the Society for action."

April 6, Drs. Chichester, Koehler, Shannon, House and Carpenter were appointed delegates to State Medical Society, and Delegates Drs. McKibbin, Heger and Shannon for the American Medical Convention. The State Medical Society accepted the invitation to hold their convention in Pottsville.

In 1854, Dr. John G. Koehler was elected pres., and Dr. A. H. Halberstadt rec. secy. of the Society.

Court House for State Society

At the April meeting, the Committee on Arrangements reported that they had secured the Court House as a place of meeting for the State Medical Society, and Geo. Miller had kindly offered his mines for their inspection. Dr. Housel, on behalf of the committee on preparations for convention in Pottsville, recommended a supper for the State Medical Society in Convention, and on motion of Dr. Derr it was to be gotten up on temperance principles.

At the Oct. meeting, through some mismanagement, the Society had rendered itself liable to a suit by Walter Sedgwick for damages in consequence of a loss which he alleged he suffered by their countermanding the order for supper, which came too late, and he went before a Justice of the Peace and summoned the committee to appear. They asked for instructions, and though they had tendered \$25 as a settlement, the Justice awarded the claimant \$40, which the committee finally paid.

At the December meeting, Dr. Wythe spoke of his microscope in an examination that settled a discussion. Dr. Hall presented a paper on the amputation of a portion of a lung, which had been excised by a dirk knife in a fight, and being strangled in the external,

he was not able to return it, when he determined upon cutting it off without a ligature. No hemorrhage ensued and the man recovered. Dr. Heger recommended that a museum be established for the care of specimens.

Jan., 1855, the Scientific Asso. agreed to give the Society a corner of their cabinet for museum specimens.

Vaccination Advocated

At March meeting, Dr. Housel introduced the subject of vaccination, and urged the public to endeavor to make it compulsory in children before they entered school. A memorial was drawn up and presented to the superintendent and directors of the public schools on the subject.

In 1856, Dr. Brown offered a paper on aneurism, and submitted specimens of unusual interest. In July, Dr. Carpenter reported upon the dilapidated condition of the treasury.

Jan., 1857, treas. reported \$11.75 on hand; it was decided to deduct 50 per cent. for delinquents, with the request that suspended members be re-instated on this basis.

At this meeting, Dr. Kern handed a letter stating that on May 15th, Miller Bright, a prisoner in the county prison, was found dead in the cell. The coroner's jury brought in a report that in the opinion of the jury Miller Bright died from Mania a Potu, and that in their opinion, from the evidence before them, the treatment of the attending physician was too mild. The doctor reviewed the case, and showed that after he prescribed for the patient, he was not notified of the change in the condition of the prisoner, and submitting fully his treatment of the case, the Society made the following resolution: "Dr. Kern's treatment in the case of Miller Bright, who died in prison

of Mania a Potu, was based on correct medical principles, and as to the size of the doses and activity of treatment, we consider a non-medical jury entirely incompetent to judge."

Jan., 1858, Dr. John T. Carpenter submitted a specimen of fractured vertebrae in which a complete twist of the longitudinal axis occurred.

Jan., 1859, Dr. John Nicholas read a paper on diphtheritis.

Jan., 1860, Dr. John T. Carpenter, coroner of the county, with assistance of other professional conferees as might have been associated with him in the various cases, was requested to furnish an annual statement of post-mortem, and such other kindred matters of interest to the Society.

In 1861, the Civil War ravaged the country, and Sch. Co. sent a large quota of surgeons and physicians to the aid of the country. Here is the list:

Dr. Douglas R. Bannan, 1861; Dr. John T. Carpenter, 1861; Dr. D. J. M'Kibbin, 1861; Dr. Henry Chester Parry, 1861; Dr. Henry R. Silliman, 1861; Dr. D. Webster Bland, 1861; Dr. J. Burd Peale, 1861; Dr. O. M. Robbins, 1861; Dr. J. B. Brandt, 1861; Dr. J. H. Kaufman, 1861; Dr. Geo. W. Saylor, 1861; Dr. Thos. Turner, 1862; Dr. P. R. Palm, 1862; Dr. C. P. Herrington, 1862; Dr. Theo. Aug. Helwig, 1862; Dr. F. J. Kern, 1863; Dr. Chas. H. Haeseler, 1863.

From 1861 to 1866 the Society has no record, many of the physicians and surgeons having served in the Civil War.

May, 1866, the Society passed an order to pay the State Medical Society, the sum of \$28.50 to pay assessments due for years 1863, 1864 and 1865.

In 1867 Dr. J. C. McWilliams appointed delegate to National Medical

Asso., in Cincinnati. A committee was appointed to visit the county almshouse and report on the condition of insane and forward the information to Dr. Curwin.

In 1868, on Feb. 12th, a call for a special meeting was sent out, calling attention to the fact that a report of election of officers was published, and after much discussion, in which it was shown the meeting was attended by Drs. Bland and Halberstadt, and Dr. Palmer whose membership was questioned, after which the Society expelled Dr. Halberstadt, but later he evidently was reinstated because his activities were noted in the meetings.

Jan. 1869, Dr. Halberstadt made an appeal to the State Medical Society for a hearing, at which a representative from the local Society appeared at the hearing in Phila.

Jan. 1870, a resolution was passed noting the schedule of prices: Viewing body when cause of death is decided without dissection, \$10.00; Examining brain and membranes, \$25.00; Examining organs of chest and abdomen, \$25.00; Decomposed or disinterred bodies, \$50.00. Resolution to county commissioners asking that bills presented be properly passed upon.

In March, Dr. John H. Packard presented a communication calling attention to law suits against medical men, and advocated joining with other medical societies to draft a bill for the Legislature, protecting their interests. At this meeting Dr. Reggan read a paper, and in other meetings Drs. Thompson and B. C. Guldin, likewise presented papers.

At a July meeting the question of recognizing women doctors was discussed by the delegates returning from the State Medical Convention, which left the matter entirely to the discretion of the local societies.

Sept. 1871, Dr. Halberstadt delivered lecture before Society. Dr. Shultz, Shenandoah, presented a paper, in regard to a mother giving birth to her twelfth child. After the birth, which was properly conducted, the mother was stricken with intense pains, resulting in her death, despite all attempts to relieve her suffering. The question was "What was the cause of her death?" It evidently remained unanswered. Dr. Fergus, of Ashland, is likewise mentioned in this month.

Feb. 1872, R. E. Rogers, Dean of University of Penna., urged the matter of legislation towards obtaining an endowment from the state for the erection of a hospital. A committee was appointed. Dr. Brown presented a case of skin grafting upon a foot that had toes amputated, three grafts being successful.

An elaborate schedule of charges to patients was decided upon and published to members to be followed out.

March 1873, Drs. McKibben, Bland, Hutton, presented valuable papers during the year.

March, 1874, meeting held animated discussion on smallpox and vaccination. During the year Drs John T. Carpenter, Carr, Bland, Thompson and Brown presented papers of interest.

A committee was appointed to take charge of chartering the Schuylkill County Medical Society

In September, first mention seems to be made of the Miner's Hospital, and resolution passed appointing a committee of six to prepare an opinion on the subject of County Hospital.

June 1875, Dr. Hermany, Dr. Owens, Dr. Halberstadt, Dr. Spaulding and Dr. Mary Alice Swayze presented papers for discussion, and Dr. Swayze's title was "The Relation of Woman to the Practice of Medicine."

Jan. 1876, found the Society industriously working, and papers from Drs. Halberstadt, Carr, Brown, McKibben, Thompson, Brendle were presented during the year.

Jan. 1877, Dr. Carpenter, retiring president, delivered annual address full of information and advice. Reviewed the progress made during the year. Papers by Drs. Carr, Spaulding, Swayze, Halberstadt and Koser were offered.

Dr. Carpenter invited members to partake of a collation at his home, which was very generally accepted.

Jan. 1878, found Dr. Quail a participant and during the year Drs. Hermany, Biddle, Bland, Carpenter, Carr, Birch, and W. H. H. Githens participated in submitting general topics.

Jan. 1878, the time having arrived for retiring president's address and invitation to partake of refreshments, did not bring the invitation, for the president made an abrupt departure with the address, and it is reported their hopes were blasted both in body and mind.

During the year Dr. Emack's name appears in which he read a paper discussed by Drs. Carpenter, Brown, Koser, Birch and Bland.

Jan. 1879, Dr. Carpenter presented memorial to be signed by citizens asking Legislature to establish State Board of Health, and called attention to fact that Commissioners refused to pay the stipulated sums for post-mortems, and was compelled to bring suit for payment of fees.

Dr. Bland, retiring president, read his annual address and extended a cordial invitation to members present to partake of a collation at his home. Drs. Brown, McKibbin, Emack, Bland, Carpenter, Koser, Sherman, Swayze, and Halberstadt tendered valuable papers during the year.

Letter from Bradford Medical Society, recommending Dr. R. B.

Amick to Schuylkill County Medical Society, the doctor coming to this section to reside.

Owing to discussion of a general Miner's Hospital being installed in county, a committee was appointed to represent the Society, consisting of Drs. Carpenter, Brown and McKibbin to aid and assist in perfecting building and plans which would combine all modern improvements of a hospital.

March 1880 Dr. Quail presented himself as a sufferer from rheumatism, and asked for views of the physicians on the subject.

Dr. Bland presented a pin which had been imbedded for thirteen years in the neighborhood of the sub-lingual glands of a patient.

Dr. John T. Carpenter, addressed as president, received letter in reference to certificates of examination for medical students wishing to enter profession.

Dr. Brady, delegate to State Convention, reported Dr. John T. Carpenter was elected president of the State Society.

Drs. Bland, Koser, Emack and Carpenter reported details of American Medical Asso. gathering which they declared was the most successful meeting ever held by that association.

Jan. 1881, Atty. Geo. M. Rhoads appointed attorney to prosecute cases as came under the law regarding necessities of the Society. Many valuable papers were submitted by members this year.

List of members of the Schuylkill County Medical Society, Jan. 1881: J. H. B. Amick, Phila.; George D. Brown, Pt. Carbon; D. W. Bland, Pottsville; George F. Brendle, Mahanoy City; G. K. Binckley, Orwigsburg; T. J. Birch, Port Carbon; J. C. Biddle, Miners' Hospital, Ashland; S. H. Brady, Lost Creek; W. C. Bankes, Middleport; C. A. Bleiler, Frackville; J. S. Callen, Shenandoah; John T. Carpenter, Pottsville;

James S. Carpenter, Pottsville; A. P. Carr, St. Clair; W. H. Carr, Sch. Haven; R. S. Chrisman, Pottsville; B. H. Davis, Mahanoy City; D. Dechert, Sch. Haven.

George Gleim, Jr., Cornwall; J. C. Gray, Cressona; B. C. Guldin, Minersville; J. M. Gwinner, Centralia; T. A. Grigg, Mahanoy City; A. H. Halberstadt, Pottsville; G. H. Halberstadt, Pottsville; P. Hermany, Mahanoy City; S. S. Koser, Williamsport; D. J. Langton, Shenandoah; C. Lenker, Sch. Haven; Thos. Lewis, Mahanoy City; George Little, Tamaqua; W. H. Matten, McKeesburg; D. J. McKibbin, Ashland; H. E. Merkel, Mahanoy City; C. D. Miller, Pottsville; R. W. Montelius, Mt. Carmel; O. P. Piper, Sch. Haven; E. F. Phillips, Tower City.

C. T. Palmer, Pottsville; G. L. Reagan, Berwick; H. D. Rentchler, Ringtown; E. W. Samuels, Mt. Carmel; S. J. Seyfert, Shenandoah; J. E. Shadel, Shenandoah; A. B. Sherman, Girardville; W. C. J. Smith, St. Clair; S. C. Spalding, Shenandoah; James Stein, Shenandoah; J. C. Swaving, Pottsville; Mary Alice Swayze, Pottsville; David Taggart, Frackville; Louis Webber, Mahanoy City; George B. Beach, Gordon; E. C. Luks, Shenandoah; W. T. Williams, Mt. Carmel; A. L. Gillars, Gilberton; G. F. Matter, Shenandoah; B. F. Bartho, Mt. Carmel; J. W. McCauley, Shenandoah; P. A. Bleiler, Girardville; L. A. Flexor, Tamanend.

Jan. 1882, Dr. McKibbin opened a discussion on pertussis, in which Drs. Bland, Halberstadt, Brown and Birch participated.

During the year a meeting directed secretary to communicate with the Board of Trustees of the Miner's Hospital, recommending this Society as the appointee of the resident physician to the Hospital.

Jan. 1883, annual address of the retiring president being called for,

the president said the address was in his office at Port Carbon, and if any of the members desired to hear it read they could do so by calling at his office, but in lieu of the address they were invited to Capt. Pott's restaurant after adjournment for the purpose of refreshing the inner man. The Society came to the conclusion that it would be conferring too much happiness upon the retiring president to hear the address, but unanimously agreed to accept his invitation to the restaurant where they could have a feast of reason, and a flow of soul.

Jan. 1884, the retiring president, Dr. Brown, delivered the annual address, replete with valuable advice and information. It was divided into three parts: "What Life Is," "What Disease Is," and "How Physicians Should Stand in Relation to Each Other."

In September at request of the president, and various members, the meeting was held at State Hospital for Injured Persons of the Anthracite Coal Region, Ashland, date, Sept. 5. At the conclusion, a dinner was served them. The Society again re-assembling, thoroughly inspected the institution, and expressed themselves as highly gratified with all the appointments, and glad that an institution of this kind had been established in the county.

Jan. 1885, started with a letter asking support of the movement for a Medical Board in the State. Dr. Biddle, the retiring president in his address of the day, at the Capt. Pott's restaurant, called upon the members and Dr. Brown, eldest member, Dr. McKibbin, Dr. Bland and Dr. Carpenter responded to toasts that proved to be most amusing, and only the necessity of the North of the Mountain members who had no special means of returning home, excepting regular

train, made it imperative to draw the meeting to a close.

Dr. McKibbin read a paper which stated that in an epidemic of variola in Ashland previous year, the mortality was somewhat less than 16 per cent. of all cases treated. Names of Dr. Lenker and Dr. Bankes appeared for the first time.

Jan. 1886, Drs. Lenker, Gray, Spalding, Davis, Piper appear in submitting unusual cases of various kinds, and much erysipelas was shown to be prevalent, notably in cases of the foreign residents. Dr. Morton came in regard to the insane patients of the county. A valuable paper was prepared by Dr. Carpenter, on "The Toxic Effects of Cocaine."

Much discussion took place, in which Drs. Koser, Birch, Moyer and Biddle participated.

May, 1887, Dr. Biddle presented rare cases, which brought discussion. Dr. Brown, Dr. J. S. Carpenter, Dr. Langton, Shenandoah; Dr. Piper, Dr. Bland, Dr. J. T. Carpenter all entered into discussion of papers submitted.

Drs. J. S. Carpenter, Weber, Brown, Geo. H. Halberstadt, R. S. Chrisman, Lenker, J. S. Moyer, took active part in discussions and papers. Dr. Dechert also appears in this year.

Dr. John T. Carpenter, after 30 years of practice, found many changes taking place, and discussed the same with excellent effect.

Jan., 1888, the retiring pres., Dr. S. W. Montelius, entertained the members in banquet at Capt. Potts' restaurant, in which, as noted for nearly two hours, the anatomical relations of a certain vertebrae animal was discussed—Meleagris Gallapavo—or plain turkey, and the tenderness of the edible mollusk fully enjoyed by all present.

Dr. Callen appeared at this time, likewise Dr. Griggs.

Mar., 1889, Dr. Lewis Weber read a paper. During the year, participating in papers submitted gave a wide range of subjects to discuss.

Feb., 1890, Dr. Jas. S. Carpenter delivered an able retiring address, and thought more papers might be submitted to the best interests of the profession. Drs. Koser, J. T. Carpenter, Biddle, G. H. Halberstadt, Gray, Stein, Grigg and Evans submitted papers of wide interest.

Jan., 1891, Dr. Williams, retiring pres., delivered annual address, and pointed out the urgent need of a State Examining Board, and the large number of doctors practicing without diplomas; also advocated a four year term at college before applying for certificate to practice.

In May, Dr. J. S. Carpenter reported a number of cases of typhoid fever in Fishbach, said to have been caused originally by a well of impure drinking water.

Dr. Swayze submitted a paper.

In Mar., 1892, Drs. J. S. Carpenter, Callen, Bleiler, Samuels, Stein and J. T. Carpenter submitted papers that treated of important cases of their experience.

Mar., 1893, Dr. Halberstadt submitted report showing Society approved of the Act to secure a wholesome unadulterated supply of milk, and urged that members take matter up with senator and representatives in his district.

Drs. Smith, Halberstadt, Samuels, Bankes and Lenker showed activity on topics before the Society this year.

Statistics of the Miners Hospital showed 137 out-patients were treated during month of June; four deaths occurred; 94 patients in the hospital, the day of the meeting. Average daily for June was 94 in-patients, at a cost of 93¾ cents per day.

Jan., 1894, Dr. Hermany gave annual address. Drs. A. P. Carr, J.

T. Carpenter, Halberstadt, Bronson, Spaulding, Callen and Biddle submitted papers during the year, and participated in all important matters before the Society.

Dr. Carpenter stated that San Francisco tendered the delegates to the American Medical Asso., particular hospitality; he was the delegate.

Dr. Halberstadt attended a military surgeon gathering in Washington, and noted the topics of interest there.

Jan., 1895, Dr. Taggart read the retiring president's address; full of humor, pointed and instructive. Dr. John B. Deaver, of Phila., was a visitor. Drs. Reber, Callen, Langton took part.

At May meeting, Dr. J. S. Carpenter, under head of oral communications, detailed the cause, object and steps toward establishing and organizing the Pottsville Hospital, stating that within a week it would open for the admission of patients. Dr. Langton tendered a paper during the month.

At later meetings of the Society, the matter of the Pottsville Hospital and its organization was widely discussed.

The Schuylkill County Medical Society thus ended its 50th anniversary in a healthy, active condition.

It had at that time, 73 members, with the following schools represented: Jefferson Medical College, 13; University of Penna., 32; Maryland College of Medicine; Geneva Medical College; N. Y. University; University of City of N. Y.; College of Physicians and Surgeons, Maryland; University of Vermont; Baltimore Medical College; Women's Medical College.

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

Jan. 5, 1897, meeting held at Hotel Tumbling Run; Dr. A. P. Carr in chair. Present: Taggart, Bland, Bronson, Reber, Seibert, J. H. Swaving; Pollock, Robbins, Gillars, Farquhar, Lytle, Merkle, J. W. Coble, Lenker, Smith, G. H. Halberstadt, A. P. Carr, Bankes, Montelius, Williams, Hoffman and Little. Visitors Dr. Victor Roth and J. B. Morris, St. Clair. Drs. Roth, Reber, C. M. Hisley, Hazleton, and Dr. W. J. Monaghan, Girardville, proposed for membership. Dr. B. C. Maud Coble invited to submit a paper next meeting.

April 6, a paper on Diphtheria was read by Dr. Hermany, and a discussion by Drs. Biddle, Brady, Merkle, Carr and Pollock took place on the merits of antitoxin. Dr. G. H. Halberstadt exhibited photos taken by X-Ray apparatus recently purchased. Dr. Paul B. Dunn, Mahanoy City, was proposed for membership and Drs. K. R. Cleaver and Jos. P. Morris accepted as members. Dr. J. Harry Swaving prepared a paper. Meetings were held at Mahanoy City and Shenandoah this year. The next meeting was unanimously decided upon to be held at Tumbling Run. At this meeting the following members and ladies were present; Drs. Brady, Cleaver, Bulcher, Millard, Farquhar, Pollock, Amick, Swaving, Merkle, Taggart, Coble, Carr, Roberts, Bankes, Roth, Bland, Chrisman, Bowman, Gillars, Lytle, Lenker, Bronson, Smith, Halberstadt, Moore, and visitors Mrs. Carr, Mrs. Halberstadt, Mrs. Lenker, Mrs. Brady, Mrs. Pollock, Mrs. Roberts, Miss Carter, Dr. Hoffman, R. R. Jones and Mrs. Amick.

September meeting was held at Girardville.

October meeting held at Tamaqua; Dr. G. H. Halberstadt reported a case where open safety pin lodged point downward, and by

use of X-Ray aid the pin was removed by forceps.

Twelve meetings were held during year.

January 4, 1898, the death of George Matter, Shenandoah, was announced.

Officers elected for the year were H. C. Bowman, pres.; G. H. Halberstadt, vice pres.; David Taggart, treas.; J. Coble, secty.; E. S. Pollock, censor.

The fourth monthly meeting was held at the County Hospital, Sch. Haven. Dr. G. H. Moore, physician and surgeon, of County Hospital read a valuable paper. Dr. P. H. O'Hara took active part in this meeting.

The June meeting was held at Frackville.

The September meeting was held at Girardville.

Dr. C. H. Bleiler and Dr. J. W. Schultz, Tremont appeared at this meeting.

January 3, 1899, following officers were elected: G. H. Halberstadt, pres.; W. C. J. Smith, vice pres.; David Taggart, treas.; G. W. Farquhar, secy.; Dr. G. W. Bland called attention to the death of Dr. John T. Carpenter.

Drs. Charles Veith, and J. Sparks Parker proposed for membership.

March 31, recorded the death of Dr. D. W. Bland. At the May 2nd meeting, following were present: Drs. O'Hara, Carr, Lytle, Swaving, G. H. Halberstadt, Brendle, Little, Williams, Farquhar, Callen, Samuels, Spalding, Sherman, Bowman and Lewis.

The resignation of Dr. James S. Carpenter was announced.

In noting the death of John T. Carpenter it stated he was born in Pottsville, April, 1833, the son of Dr. James S. Carpenter.

The June 6th meeting was held at Mt. Carmel.

September meeting held at Shenandoah; October meeting at Frackville.

November meeting at Girardville; December meeting at Pottsville.

Jan. 2, 1900, following officers elected: Dr. C. W. J. Smith, Pres.; Dr. A. L. Gillars, Vice Pres.; Dr. David Taggart, Treas.; Dr. G. W. Farquhar, Secty.; Dr. A. P. Carr, Censor.

Feb. 6, Dr. G. O. O. Santee, Cresona, and Donahue, Mahanoy Plane, proposed for membership.

July 3, Dr. Katrina Freidenburg, Tamaqua, proposed for membership.

Jan. 8, 1901, following officers were elected: Dr. A. L. Gillars, Pres.; Dr. J. P. Morris, Vice Pres.; Dr. David Taggart, Treas.; Dr. G. W. Farquhar, Secy.; Dr. J. S. Callen, Censor.

A resolution changed the meeting time to Jan., March, May, July, Sept., and Nov. of each year.

Dr. S. E. Wertman was proposed for membership, and Dr. T. F. Heebner, Pt. Carbon elected corresponding secretary.

Dr. R. B. McCay, of Treverton, and S. E. Wertman, Mahanoy City, elected to membership.

Jan. 16, 1902, officers elected were: Dr. J. P. Morris, Pres.; Dr. George Little, Vice Pres.; Dr. H. C. Bowman, Secy.; Dr. David Taggart, Treas.; Dr. J. S. Callen, Censor.

The name of Dr. C. D. Miller appears during this year.

Jan. 6, 1903, the members present were: Drs. Little, H. C. Bowman, David Taggart, F. P. Lytle, C. Lenker, Montelius, Williams, Coble, Samuels, Lessig, Lenker, Moore, Dechert, Miller, Gillars, Halberstadt and Santee.

March 3, Dr. Mary Alice Swayze presented her resignation.

Nov. 10, Dr. B. C. Maud Coble Speer, presented her resignation.

Jan. 5, 1904, the following were elected officers: C. A. Bleiler, Pres.;

G. W. Farquhar, Vice Pres.; H. C. Bowman, Secy.; David Taggart, Treas.; Phaon Hermany, Censor.

Drs. O. J. Carlin and Lewis Kennedy were proposed as members. Dr. G. K. Binkley appeared in this meeting. Dr. D. J. Langton was elected a delegate to the state convention.

Jan. 3, 1905, Drs. W. R. Brothers, David Holland, and Arthur B. Fleming were admitted to membership.

Officers for year are: Drs. G. W. Farquhar, Pres.; J. Louis Hoffman, Vice Pres.; H. C. Bowman, Secy.; David Taggart, Treas.; C. Lenker, Censor. Dr. Bowman resigned as Secy., and Dr. Santee was elected to the position.

The applications of Drs. N. H. Stein, Middleport, W. J. Monaghan, Girardville, and George W. Ressler, Ashland, were received.

Jan. 2, 1906, the officers elected were: J. Lewis Hoffman, Pres.; G. H. Moore, Vice Pres.; G. O. O. Santee, Secy.; David Taggart, Treas.

A new constitution was submitted; in February the following application was received, Dr. Jerome B. Rogers, Pottsville.

March, the name of J. T. Berk was nominated.

Drs. J. F. Bryson and E. E. Shiffrstein were proposed for membership. The name of Dr. Price appears at this time; Dr. G. W. Ressler became a member in February.

June 5, announcement was made of the death of Dr. W. C. J. Smith, of St. Clair.

July 3, the application of D. R. S. Corson was presented. The introduction of First Aid to the Injured was made by Dr. G. H. Halberstadt.

In October the names of Drs. H. M. Wasley and Wm. J. Winters, of Shenandoah, were submitted for admission, likewise John Gwinner for membership.

Dec. 4, Dr. L. A. Flexer, Shenandoah, sent in his resignation.

Jan. 8, 1907, Dr. R. A. Constein proposed for membership. Following were officers elected: Dr. G. H. Moore, Secy.; Dr. A. B. Fleming, Vice Pres.; Dr. G. O. O. Santee, Secy.; Dr. David Taggart, Treas.; Dr. J. Spencer Callen, Censor; Dr. G. O. O. Santee, Reporter. Dr. Roy H. Renn, Tremont and Dr. E. E. Weisner, of Wehr, were proposed for membership.

Later in year other proposed members were: Dr. Jos. G. Kramer, Dr. Merchant C. Householder and Dr. O. J. Carlin, Pottsville. All were granted membership.

Doctors W. T. Davies, Ashland and C. W. Gillette, Sch. Haven, were accepted into membership from Dauphin County.

At October meeting, invitation was extended to members of the clerical, legal and other professions to be present at meetings of mutual interest.

Applications of Doctors Lyman D. Heim, Sch. Haven and Harry H. Stewart, Friedensburg, were received and favorably acted upon.

Dr. D. F. Hummel, Gilberton, was proposed for membership.

Jan. 7, 1908, the meeting was held at Sch. Haven and following officers elected: Dr. A. B. Fleming, Pres.; Dr. H. M. Wasley, Vice Pres.; Dr. David Taggart, Treas.; Dr. G. O. O. Santee, Secy. and Reporter; Dr. G. H. Halberstadt, Censor for five years. Dr. Daniel Dechert of Sch. Haven was received into membership.

At the May meeting Dr. J. E. Auchmuty, Maryd, was proposed for membership.

Aug. 4, the meeting was held at Woodland Park, Ashland. Dr. G. W. Reese, Mahanoy City, was elected a member.

A meeting was held at Tumbling Run on Sept. 4 with a large attendance. Dr. Daniel Fox Hummel, Gilberton, was reported as having died.

Nov. 6, 1908, the applications of

Doctors Mary B. Kingsbury, Pottsville and J. T. Ryan were accepted and favorably acted upon.

Dec. 8, Dr. John Edward Beale, Coaldale, was proposed for membership.

Jan. 11, 1909, meeting at Tamaqua was attended by Doctors Bronson, Hermany, Lenker, Williams, Wassel, Swaving, Taggart, Lessig, Holland, Roth, Roberts, Bowman, Reese, Corson, Berk, G. H. Moore, Stewart, Farquhar, Gulden, Stein, Kramer, Shifferstine, Fleming, Santee, and Beale, with visitors Doctors Seligman, Mahanoy City and W. Wayne Babcock, Philadelphia.

Following officers were elected: Dr. W. T. Williams, Pres.; Dr. C. Lenker, Vice Pres.; Dr. G. O. O. Santee, Secy. and Reporter; Dr. G. H. Halberstadt, Censor.

At February 2nd meeting committee was appointed on resolutions on death of Dr. A. H. Halberstadt.

March 11, the society held a meeting at Fountain Springs Hospital, after which Dr. J. C. Biddle performed an operation and held an elaborate clinic.

Dr. Thos. E. Hughes, Gilberton, was elected a member.

At Tumbling Run meeting Aug. 3, Dr. David Morgan, Auburn, and Dr. G. H. Boyer, Pottsville, made applications for membership and were later accepted.

At October meeting, Dr. Jas. H. Hagenbuch, Dr. John R. Bissell, and Dr. A. P. Seligman, Mahanoy City were elected to membership.

Nov. 2, a meeting in Pottsville was attended by Prof. J. C. DaCosta, Phila., who gave surgical clinic at Pottsville Hospital.

March 1st, applications of Dr. Thomas C. Rutter, Berwick, Pa. and Dr. J. J. Coffman accepted. Dr. Frederick B. Harding elected a member.

Dr. P. H. O'Hara discussed surgical treatment of cancer.

July 5, Doctors David S. Marshall and John F. Marshall, of Ashland, accepted as members.

August 2nd, Dr. Raymond A. Dengler, Gilberton, proposed for membership.

Sept. 6, Doctors Henry A. Dirschedl, Pottsville; Edward P. O'Donnell, Heckscherville; and John Stein, Sch. Haven, proposed as members. They were accepted.

Nov. 1, following proposed for membership: Doctors A. S. Jones, Girardville; T. O. McCutcheon, Gordon; George Cunningham, Mahanoy City; John R. Stein, Sch. Haven; Charles V. Wadlinger, Tower City.

During year Dr. J. L. Warne's name appears for first time.

At Dec. 6th meeting he presented a valuable paper on lobar pneumonia.

Jan. 3, 1911, the meeting at Elks Home, officers elected as follows: Drs. J. A. Lessig, Pres.; G. R. S. Corson, Vice Pres.; G. O. O. Santee, Secy. and Reporter; David Taggart, Treas.; and A. F. Bronson, Censor.

Feb. 7, Dr. Adna S. Jones elected to membership and Dr. G. S. Hensyl, Mahanoy City, proposed as a member, while Dr. John J. Dailey was accepted from the Luzerne Co. society.

June 6, resolutions passed on death of Dr. Daniel J. Langton. Dr. Harriett I. Evans, Mahanoy City, was proposed for membership.

July 11th, resolutions passed on deaths of Dr. Jacob W. Coble and Dr. Chas. A. Bleiler, members of the society.

Sept. 5, Doctors O. H. Mengel, Frackville and W. A. Moyer, Donaldson, were proposed for membership, and following elected full members: Doctors T. C. Fegley, Tremont; James M. Monaghan, Minersville; John McCrystle, Minersville; Frank J. Walters, Pinegrove; and Richard D. Roderick, Maryd.

Oct. 5, Dr. John L. Striegel, Pottsville, proposed for membership.

Jan. 2, 1912, officers elected were: Doctors G. R. S. Corson, Pres.; H. H. Stewart, Vice Pres.; G. O. O. Santee, Secy.; David Taggart, Treas.; J. Spencer Callen, Censor.

Feb. 6, the State Commission on tuberculosis recommended committee on "Prevention of Tuberculosis" be appointed. At this same meeting Dr. Jas. B. Heller, Pottsville, was elected a member.

April 2, paper on "Cremation" was presented by Dr. C. Lenker.

May 7, Doctors E. A. Moyer, Donaldson and F. P. Barndt, Hegins, were proposed for membership.

July 9, meeting at Hamburg, Pa., held at Blue Mountain Fish and Game Asso. combined with Berks Co. society. Those present from Schuylkill were: Doctors Binkley, O'Hara, Miller, Kramer, C. Lenker, R. W. Lenker, Roderick, Fleming, Freidenberger, Auchmuty, Wiesner, Boyer, Corson, Santee, W. H. Stein, N. H. Stein, Taggart, Dechert, Heim, Lessig, Gillette, Stewart, Gillars, Dailey, Householder, Samuels, Walter, Swaving, Gallagher, Montelius, W. T. Williams, and T. L. Williams.

Sept. 3, Coaldale Hospital. Meeting held with Schuylkill and Carbon counties in joint session. Resolutions passed on the death of Dr. Thos. J. Birch, Port Carbon.

Oct. 1st, Dr. Wm. G. Jones elected a member.

Jan. 7, 1913, following officers elected: Doctors H. H. Stewart, Pres.; R. A. Dengler, Vice Pres.; G. O. O. Santee, Secy. and Reporter; David Taggart, Treas.; G. H. Halberstadt, Censor.

March 4, resolutions on death of Dr. E. Pius O'Donnell, of Heckscherville, was passed. Application for membership received from Doctors Hamilton C. Wallace and Walter G. Bowers; unanimously elected.

Resolutions on death of Dr. Sobiesky and Dr. H. Brady were passed.

May 6, application of Dr. Stanley W. Blazejewsky, Shenandoah, received.

Death of Dr. Andrew P. Carr announced.

July 8, Doctors Boone, Swalm and Doyle noted on the minutes as present.

Sept. 9, Dr. T. D. Casey, of Ashland, elected a member. Applications received from Doctors Frank McWilliams and Aaron H. Detweiler, of Sch. Haven, received.

Dec. 9 meeting at Y. M. C. A., had following propositions for membership: C. B. Dreher, Tamaqua; J. J. Curran, Silver Creek; Paul C. Boord, Maryd; Jno. B. Lark, Girardville; Elmer H. Maurer, Ashland; Harry T. Davis, Robert F. Weaver and Jos. P. Morris, St. Clair; Samuel E. Wertman, Paul B. Dunn, David A. Holland, Geo. A. Cunningham, Ivor D. Fenton, all of Mahanoy City; Wm. Jno. Scanlan, John R. Stein, J. Edward Smith and Thos. Aloysius Monahan, Shenandoah; Wm. Francis Doyle, Jas. S. Carpenter, Jr., and O. J. Carlin, Pottsville; Francis M. Quinn and Geo. A. Merkle, Minersville; Robert B. Gray and Thos. F. Higgins, Port Carbon.

Jan. 6, 1914, officers elected were: Doctors R. H. Dengler, Pres.; H. W. Dechert, Vice Pres.; G. O. O. Santee, Secy.; David Taggart, Treas.; A. F. Bronson, Censor.

A photograph of the Society Assembly was taken at this time.

Application of membership for Dr. A. S. Ryland, of Valley View, was received. He was elected.

Aug. 4 meeting held at Lakeside Park, and large number present. The applications of Dr. John Monahan, Shenandoah and Dr. M. J. Dewey, Girardville received.

Sept. 1st, resolutions passed on death of Dr. Wm. Henry Carr, Lancaster, Pa., who was a former Schuylkill physician.

Nov. 10, resolution passed endorsing a limit of Child Labor to be not

under 16 years of age nor more than 8 hours a day.

Dec. 2, it was learned a damage suit was to come in the January term of court against Dr. J. C. Biddle, and the members voted to give him their moral support. This meeting was held at County Insane Hospital, Sch. Haven.

Jan. 12, 1915, meeting at Mahanoy City with Dr. R. A. Dengler in chair. New set of Constitution and By-Laws presented and accepted. The following officers were elected for the year: Dr. Harry W. Dechert, Pres.; Dr. J. K. Berk, 1st Vice Pres.; Dr. G. H. Boyer, 2nd Vice Pres.; Dr. G. O. O. Santee, Secy. and Reporter; Dr. David Taggart, Treas; Doctors C. Lenker, P. Hermany and J. Spencer Callen, Censors.

Feb. 2, deaths of Dr. Frank McWilliams and J. Harry Swaving noted by passing of resolutions.

June 1st, Dr. A. B. Fleming was elected delegate to State Convention and Dr. W. T. Williams, alternate.

August 3, Dr. J. Stewart Rodman, Phila., the speaker. Dr. Zera E. Bolin elected a member.

Oct. 5, Dr. A. E. Simonis submitted transfer of membership to the society from the Shreveport society.

Dec. 7, Dr. Morgan, Phila., was speaker of evening. The death of Dr. G. K. Binkley was noted.

Jan. 4, 1916, officers elected were: Dr. H. M. Wasley, Pres.; Dr. G. H. Boyer, 1st Vice Pres.; Dr. T. Lamar Williams, 2nd Vice Pres.; Dr. G. O. O. Santee, Secy. and Reporter; Dr. David Taggart, Treas.; Dr. J. Spencer Callen the new Censor.

Dr. Geo. P. Mueller of U. of P., Phila., speaker. Mar. 7, Dr. Leo Knauber, Tower City, proposed, and Wm. H. Hinkle, Tamaqua, elected to membership.

April 4, Doctors John S. Monahan, Martin Joseph Patrick and Henry Francis Kilty, Shenandoah, proposed for membership. Dr. J. B. Rucker

from Penna. Dept. of Health was the speaker.

May 2, Dr. J. B. Rogers, Pottsville, elected to membership, as were four previously mentioned doctors.

Dr. Gilbert Freck Bretz, Pottsville, was proposed for membership.

Dr. John F. X. Jones, Phila., was the speaker.

July 11, Dr. Bretz was admitted to membership and Dr. Leo T. Mullahey, Shenandoah, was proposed. Dr. Wm. T. Sharpless, West Chester, was the speaker.

Aug. 1, Dr. John B. Stein and Dr. William Ford, Shenandoah, proposed to membership.

Oct. 3, Dr. M. J. Dewey, Girardville and Dr. J. Frank Marshall, of Ashland, proposed for membership. Dr. Hiram R. Loux, Phila., was the speaker.

Dec. 5, Dr. Phaon Hermany and Harry E. Wasley mentioned in resolutions on their deaths.

Feb. 6, 1917, the annual meeting elected the following officers: Dr. G. H. Boyer, Pres.; Dr. J. K. Berk, 1st Vice Pres.; Dr. J. L. Warne, 2nd Vice Pres.; Dr. G. O. O. Santee, Secy.; Dr. David Taggart, Treas.; Dr. A. B. Fleming, new Censor.

Mar. 6, Dr. Alfred M. Bergstein elected member. Following propositions noted: Dr. E. L. Straub, Minersville; Dr. Ella I. Rynkiewicz, Shenandoah; Dr. J. Frank Marshall and D. Samuel Marshall, Ashland; Dr. Jos. V. Burns, Coaldale; Dr. Robert F. Weaver, St. Clair; Dr. Wm. A. Weaver, Jr., Coaldale; Dr. Charles E. Bredt, Mahanoy City; Dr. Thos. J. McGurl, Minersville; Dr. Jas. B. Heller, Pottsville; Dr. Michael G. Dewey, Girardville; Dr. Jas. P. Roth, Ftn. Springs; Dr. Wm. Henry Barr, Ftn. Springs; and Dr. J. Edw. Smith, Shenandoah, all duly elected, some of whom being re-instated members.

May 2, Dr. Wm. J. Winters, Shenandoah, elected a member. Prof. A. C. Morgan, Phila., speaker.

June 12, Dr. Jos. T. Murphy, Pottsville, elected a member.

July 17, Drs. Colman, Jump, McClain and Gaus, Phila., present in interest of Medical Reserve Corps of the U. S. Army.

Aug. 7, meeting was held at Lakewood, and Dr. Foss, superintendent of Geissinger Hospital, Danville, Pa., the speaker.

Oct. 2, resolutions presented exempting from payment of dues those serving the country during the war. Committee appointed to keep in touch with the doctors serving in the war.

Nov. 15, Drs. Percy I. Meikrantz, Pottsville, and H. H. Holderman, Shenandoah, were proposed for membership, later elected.

Jan. 4, 1918, Dr. John Jos. Sweeney nominated for membership.

Feb. 5, Dr. Pepper, of U. of P., was speaker.

Mar. 5, Dr. Sweeney, Heckscherville, elected to membership.

April 2, a letter was read from Dr. G. H. Boyer from France.

July 2, Dr. Robt. M. Wolfe, Pt. Carbon, elected to membership, and Drs. Clewell, Coaldale, and Hermany, Mahanoy City, proposed.

Sept. 3, Dr. J. Coles Brick, Phila., was speaker.

Dec. 3, Dr. Warne noted that during epidemic of influenza, no meeting was held during Oct. and Nov. Dr. F. P. Barndt, Hegins, elected a member. All doctors in the war were exempt from payment of dues. Dr. Thos. C. Rutter, Sch. Haven, proposed for membership. Dr. J. M. Fisher, Phila., read paper.

Jan. 24, 1919, owing to serious illness of wife of Dr. Warne, pres., Vice Pres. L. B. Heim presided. Number of members reported as 106. Dr. Robt. M. Biddle, Ashland, elected a member, and Dr. Harry Alexander Price, Pt. Carbon, proposed for membership.

Officers elected were: Dr. T. Lamar Williams, pres.; Dr. L. D.

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Heim, vice pres.; 2d vice pres., Christian Gruhler; sec. and reporter, Dr. G. R. S. Corson; new censor, Dr. J. S. Callen.

Feb. 4, Dr. Harry K. Hobbs, Shenandoah, proposed.

Mar. 12, Dr. Hobbs elected a member. Speakers: Drs. J. Newton Hunsberger, Norristown; Ira G. Shoemaker, Reading.

April 1, the pharmacists of county accepted invitation and were present. Prof. Wm. H. LaWall, Phila., was speaker. Prof. E. J. G. Beardsley, Phila., represented the pharmacists as their speaker.

May 6, monthly meeting, Shenandoah.

June 3, Dr. W. H. Clewell, Coaldale, proposed for membership.

July 1, the following, who represented the Medical Corps, M. P., over seas, gave their war experiences: J. J. Moore, J. T. Murphy, Pottsville; Roger Samuels, Mt. Carmel; C. C. Coonas, Kulpmont; A. B. Fleming, Tamaqua.

Aug. 5, Drs. Wm. Berk and M. J. McCarthy, Pottsville, proposed for membership.

Meetings were held monthly and prominent speakers present.

Dec. 2, the secy. read an abstract from Penna. State Board of Health relative to prevailing epidemic of diphtheria.

Jan. 6, 1920, the Medical Society took part in banquet in honor of medical men of county who served during the late war. It was given by the doctors of the county who remained at home, and some of the wives of the doctors served as waitresses. Dr. Henry D. Jump, Lieut.-Col. in the service, gave reminiscences of new phases used during the war. Dr. W. Wayne Babcock, also a Lieut.-Col., gave high spots of surgical treatments used during the war. A large gathering participated.

The following list of physicians served in the World War.

Jos. Austra, Shenandoah; W. A. Bacon, Pottsville; Harry Bailey, Tamaqua; Gouverneur H. Boyer, Pottsville; A. M. Bergstein, Pottsville; Wm. Breslin, Shenandoah; Robt. M. Biddle, Ashland; P. C. Boord, New Phila.; Jos. B. Burns, Coaldale; Chapin Carpenter, Pottsville; E. J. Conahan, Morea; F. H. Cantlin, Shenandoah; R. A. Constein, Ashland.

Jas. Dolphin, Mah. City; Jos. J. Dailey, McAdoo; M. G. Dewey, Girardville; J. J. Donahue, Frackville; W. J. Dougherty, Frackville; T. C. Fegley, Tremont; Ivor D. Fenton, Mah. City; A. B. Fleming, Tamaqua; Albert Fisher, Ashland; A. L. Gillars, Pottsville; D. J. Hawk, Tower City; Harry K. Hobbs, Shenandoah; Fred Harding, Tamaqua; J. L. Hoffman, Ashland; J. B. Heller, Pottsville; Geo. S. Hensyl, Mah. City.

E. T. Jones, St. Clair; Edgar Kemner, Tamaqua; Robt. Lenker, Sch. Haven; Wm. Lee, Pottsville; Harry Lewis, Ashland; Edw. Maran, Ashland; Geo. H. Moore, Sch. Haven; Jos. Murphy, Pottsville; W. J. Monahan, Girardville; T. A. Monahan, Shenandoah; Thos. J. McGurl, Minersville; M. J. McCarthy, St. Clair; John Miller, Shenandoah; Jos. Monahan, Shenandoah; Thos. Monahan, Shenandoah.

Roscoe Mausser, Ashland; E. H. Maurer, Ashland; L. T. Mullahy, Shenandoah; J. John Moore, Pottsville; E. M. Quinn, Minersville; Jas. Roth, Ashland; H. T. Ryan, Sch. Haven; Hiram Straub, Minersville; Oliver K. Speer, Tamaqua; J. G. Streigel, Pottsville; L. M. Schultz, Pottsville; H. H. Stewart, Pottsville; J. J. Sweeney, Heckscher-ville; Geo. O. O. Santee, Cressona; A. E. Simonis, Tremont; W. J. Scanlan, Shenandoah; Jos. Wyatt, Ashland; Frank J. Walters, Pinegrove; E. P. Werner, Orwigsburg; R. F. Weaver, St. Clair; C. V. Wadlinger, Pt. Carbon.

Feb. 3, 1920, the annual meeting elected the following officers: Dr. L. D. Heim, pres.; Dr. G. C. Gruhler, 1st vice pres.; Dr. J. J. Dailey, 2d vice pres.; Dr. G. O. O. Santee, sec.; Dr. David Taggart, treas.; Dr. A. B. Fleming, censor.

Drs. F. M. Quinn, W. A. Bacon, David A. Holland, Wm. K. Berk elected to membership. The following proposed: Drs. Jos. J. Austra, Edgar Williams, Kemner, Francis Jos. Conahan, Edw. J. McGeehin, John Wesley Conrad and Lee DeLance Parry were declared elected.

Resolutions on death of Dr. W. T. Williams, Mt. Carmel, read.

Mar. 2, the following were proposed: Dr. Carl W. Espy, Dr. Geo. A. Merkle. Made full members following week.

June 1, Dr. R. W. Lenker, Sch. Haven, accepted in membership, and Harry W. Bailey proposed for membership. Later elected.

Jan. 4, 1921, officers elected were: Dr. C. Gruhler, Pres.; Dr. J. J. Dailey, 1st Vice Pres.; Dr. M. C. Householder, 2nd Vice Pres.; Dr. G. O. O. Santee, Sec. and Reporter; Dr. David Taggart, Treas.; Dr. C. Lenker, Censor.

Aug. 4, Mid-summer meeting held at Schuylkill Country Club, Orwigsburg. Dr. J. O. Arnold, U. of P., Phila., was speaker of the day.

Sept. 6, Dr. Guy Robinhold proposed as a new member and Dr. R. D. Spencer transferred from Lyscoming County. Following were proposed for membership: Drs. Frank H. Cantlin and W. P. Leach, Shenandoah; and Dr. Lewis Schultz, Port Carbon.

Jan. 10, 1922, annual meeting was held in Chamber of Commerce Rooms and elected following officers: Dr. John J. Dailey, Pres.; Dr. M. C. Householder, 1st Vice Pres.; Dr. G. O. O. Santee, 2nd Vice Pres.; Dr. A. H. Fleming, Secy.; Dr. David Taggart, Treas.; Dr. J. Spencer Calen and Dr. A. L. Gillars, Censors.

A committee was appointed to discuss the matter of new meeting room in the Pottsville Library Building.

Feb. 7, meeting was held in Parish House of Episcopal Church, where they were entertained at a turkey dinner. Dr. Judson DeLand, of Phila., was speaker. The following admitted to membership: Drs. Geo. H. Boone, Pottsville; John W. Clay, Minersville; Harry T. Dailey, St. Clair; Chas. V. Hogan, Pottsville; Abraham Lebendig, Shenandoah; and Jos. B. Morris, St. Clair.

Resolutions were passed on the death of Dr. W. T. Williams, Mt. Carmel.

April 11, resolutions on death of Dr. Kate Freudenberg, Tamaqua.

May 2, Drs. John Lewis Flannigan, Silver Creek and Irvin E. Sausser, Valley View, were elected to membership.

June 6, secretary reported 120 members in Society. Dr. J. C. Biddle celebrated 68th anniversary by having Sch. County Medical Society hold their meeting at State Hospital, Ashland.

July 6, meeting at Hershey, Pa., invitation was extended by Dr. J. C. Biddle to be in attendance at the dedication of the J. C. Biddle addition to the State Hospital.

Dr. O. K. Speer elected a member and the following were proposed: Dr. John Conway, Gilberton; Dr. Walker Luschinsky, Shenandoah.

Aug. 3, meeting held at Mantzville, Pa. Drs. Joseph Longo, Sheppton and Davis, Centralia, accepted. Resolutions were passed on the death of Dr. Chas. Miller.

Sept. 7, contributions received from Drs. Albert M. Redlin, Coal-dale; Jos. Russell Sweeny, Tamaqua; Wm. Breslin, Shenandoah; Albert Anceirivicz, Shenandoah; Dr. A. L. Gillars transferred to Phila. and Dr. Jas. J. Monahan to Cambria County Medical Society.

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Resolutions on death of Dr. L. T. Mullahey, Shenandoah, passed.

Oct. 12, meeting held in Assembly Room of New Library, Pottsville.

Nov. 13, Committee on Cancer advocated holding six meetings throughout county and invited public to be present.

Dr. H. S. Dunkleberger, Valley View, proposed for membership.

Dec. 5, Dr. John W. Arbogast, Tower City and Dr. William Leigh, Pottsville, proposed for membership and finally accepted.

Jan. 9, 1923, following officers elected for year: Dr. M. C. Householder, Pres.; Dr. G. O. O. Santee, Cressona, 1st Vice Pres.; Dr. H. H. Holderman, 2nd Vice Pres.; Dr. A. B. Fleming Secy. and Treas.; Dr. C. Lenker, Censor.

Feb. 6, Dr. Roscoe F. Mauser, Ashland elected a member and Dr. Ralph Dengler, Delano, proposed for membership.

Mar. 6, meeting held in Y. M. C. A. room.

A meeting of the Post-Graduate Matriculates held after regular meeting adjourned.

Apr. 3, Dr. Jos. T. Doane, Phila., gave a history of Mercuric Chloride which was most interesting.

May 1, Dr. Wm. J. O'Neil, Ashland, was elected as new member. Dr. Erin Detweiler, Sch. Haven asked permission to have his grandchild a subject for administration of Toxin-Anti-Toxin for diphtheria immunization and Dr. McCreary administered the dose.

July 10, regular meeting of Society was held at New Tripoli, Lehigh County.

Aug. 7, new minimum fee bill presented and accepted by Society.

Sept. 11, Dr. Kelty, of Geissinger Hospital gave a talk on goitre.

Oct. 9, Dr. Geo. S. Marbarger, New Ringgold, proposed for membership.

Dr. C. C. Morgan, Temple University, Phila., was speaker.

Dec. 4, annual meeting had 50 medical men present, and with wives and guests, a total of 162 people. Address was by Dr. Francis Green, Pennington Seminary, N. J. His topic, "Four Wireless Messages," said, First—From 17th Century, Shakespeare: "Good Digestion Wait on Appetite, and Health on Both."—Eat wisely; sleep well; and keep clean. Second—From Browning, 19th Century: "Learn nor Count the Pang; Dare Never Grudge the Throw."—Ingathering of Knowledge. Third—from Paul, 1st Century, "Be Not Overcome of Evil, but Overcome Evil With Good." (Be Good for Something.) Fourth—from Christ Himself, "Rejoice and be Exceeding Glad, for Great is Your Reward."

Jan. 8th, 1924, first meeting in permanent quarters in Public Library Bldg. held. Officers elected for year were: Dr. G. O. O. Santee, Pres.; Dr. J. Spencer Callen, 1st Vice Pres.; Dr. Thos. McGurl, 2nd Vice Pres.; Dr. A. B. Fleming, Secy.-Treas.; Dr. Christian Lenker, Censor.

During year 1923, following new members accepted: Doctors J. W. Arbogast, Tower City; R. A. Dengler, Delano; H. S. Dunkleberger, Valley View; C. H. Knauer, Tamaqua; Wm. T. Leach, Shenandoah; W. F. Leigh, Pottsville; G. S. Marbarger, New Ringgold; R. F. Mauser, Ashland Hospital; Williard Mengle, Coaldale Hospital; W. J. O'Neill, Ashland; Edw. Cook, Shenandoah.

Feb. 12, Dr. Francis F. Bodine, transferred from Erie County to society.

May 6, resolutions passed on death of Dr. J. C. Biddle, chief surgeon of Fountain Springs State Hospital for 40 years.

Dr. G. R. S. Corson of new library committee, reported many avail-

able books ready for use of members. Dr. John C. Carroll, New Phila., made application for membership.

Aug. 5, applications were presented from Dr. Harry Hobbs, Shenandoah and Dr. Wm. Addis Jacques, of Ashland State Hospital.

Death of Dr. G. R. S. Corson noted and a donation of furniture and books was made by the widow to the society.

Dr. A. P. Knight was chosen as acting chairman of library committee to succeed Dr. Corson.

Sept. 9, application was received from Dr. Robert Dress, Tamaqua.

Jan. 8, 1925, officers elected for the coming year were: Dr. Thomas G. McGurl, Pres.; Dr. Albanus S. Ryland, 1st Vice Pres.; Dr. Thomas J. Rutter, 2nd Vice Pres.; Dr. A. B. Fleming, Secy.-Treas. Report was made of the death of Drs. W. G. Jones, St. Clair and John D. Riley, Mahanoy City.

March 10, death of Dr. John McCrystal, Minersville, noted.

April 7, following were elected new members: Dr. John F. Nash, Pottsville; Dr. Wm. Dorasavage, Pottsville, and Dr. Harry F. Hartman, Frackville.

Sept. 1, meeting held at Shamokin Hospital, where they witnessed clinics by Dr. Geo. W. Reese. Dr. M. G. Adolph Neupauer, Pottsville, elected to membership.

Nov. 10, meeting held at County Hospital for Mental and Nervous Diseases and Dr. Walter G. Bowers conducted a clinic. Dr. Edgar G. Shifferstine, Coaldale, sent his application.

Jan. 12, 1926, following officers were elected: Dr. A. S. Ryland, Pres.; Dr. John Rhoads, 1st Vice Pres.; Dr. T. Lamar Williams, 2nd Vice Pres.; Dr. A. B. Fleming, Secy.-Treas.; Dr. Robert Lenker, Censor to replace deceased parent. Resolutions were presented on the death of Dr. Christian Lenker, who died

Nov. 22. Also resolutions on the death of Dr. John J. Moore, Pottsville.

Feb. 9, Dr. C. V. Wadlinger, made application for membership and was accepted. Resolutions on death of Dr. Edward J. McGeehan were passed.

March 9, application for memberships were: Doctors C. E. Stevenson, Port Carbon; R. R. Kaiser, Mahanoy City; J. R. Jeppson, Ashland; Dr. W. V. Dzureck, Pottsville.

May 4, Dr. Wilton R. Glenney, Pottsville and Dr. Guy H. Barndt, Hegins, elected members.

Oct. 5, applications presented for Doctors John M. West, Lorenz Bond, Robert Follweiller, Tamaqua, and Dr. Lewis H. Bacon, Pottsville, Dr. W. A. Breslin, all were elected.

Nov. 9, application received from Dr. William A. Schmidt, Shenandoah.

Jan. 4, 1927, officers for ensuing year are: Dr. John Rhoads, Ringtown, Pres.; Dr. T. Lamar Williams, 1st Vice Pres.; Dr. J. Stratton Carpenter, 2nd Vice Pres.; Dr. A. B. Fleming, Secy.-Treas.

Valuable papers presented during the preceding year by local and visiting physicians.

June 14, meeting held at Dr. Warne Hospital where various clinics were held, there being 150 people present.

The July meeting was held at Lykens, Pa.

Oct. 11, Doctors Benj. F. Lizio and Lewis Taylor, recently of County Hospitals, were elected to membership.

Nov. 9, meeting held at Locust Mt. Hospital.

Jan. 10, 1928, officers elected for year were: Dr. T. Lamar Williams, Pres.; Dr. J. Stratton Carpenter, 1st Vice Pres.; Dr. H. H. Holderman, 2nd Vice Pres.; Dr. A. B. Fleming, Secy.-Treas.; Censors, Drs. J. Spencer Callen, Robert Lenker and Thos. J. McGurl.

Feb. 7, application of Dr. Russel F. Miller received.

Mar. 6, resolutions passed on death of Dr. John C. Gallagher, Shenandoah. Following were elected members: Dr. Angelo Gallo, Dr. Russell Miller, and Dr. Anthony Miller. Committee appointed to encourage burning of coal that would cause abatement of smoke nuisances.

April 3, it was found the meeting place for the Schuylkill County Medical Society was too small for the purpose and it was necessary to use the Library auditorium. 76 were present.

June 5, Doctors Anthony Murray and Stirling F. Mengle were accepted as members, and Dr. James J. Flannery handed in application. Local milk inspector present and gave talk on needs for milk supervision in county.

Sept. 18, Doctors W. Blair Mosser, Pottsville and James J. Flannery, Mahanoy Plane, accepted as members.

Dec. 4, meeting was termed the Schuylkill County Home Coming meeting at which 92 doctors, ladies and friends participated in a turkey dinner. It was a most enjoyable affair. Among those present from a distance were: Dr. A. C. Morgan, of Phila., formerly of Lost Creek.

Jan. 8, 1929, Dr. J. Stratton Carpenter, new president, in letter of acceptance stated that it was in 1845, over three-quarters of a century ago that the first Jas. S. Carpenter helped to found this Society, now so well established. The officers elected for the year were: Dr. J. Stratton Carpenter, Pres.; Dr. H. H. Holderman, 1st Vice Pres.; Dr. Geo. A. Merkle, 2nd Vice Pres.; Dr. A. B. Fleming, Secy.-Treas.: Dr. Carpenter was ill at the time.

At February meeting, resolutions passed on death of Abraham Lebendig, Shenandoah.

April 2, Dr. Alexander E. Valibus, Shenandoah and Dr. Chas. M. Delp, St. Clair. elected members.

W. P. Smith, secretary of the Anti-Tuberculosis Society had a letter with the result that resolutions were passed tendering cooperation in the checking of tuberculosis in the county.

May 7, Dr. Michl. G. Dewey, Girardville, elected a member.

June 11, Dr. Harvey P. Hess and Dr. Chas. E. Peach, Pinegrove, elected members.

Sept. 12, meeting held in conjunction with Second Councilor District meeting at Valley Forge, Pa., to which 124 physicians attended, exclusive of ladies and other guests. Dr. E. L. Buyers, Norristown, Dist. Councilor, presided. Dr. Joel T. Boone, Washington, D. C., responded with an excellent paper.

Oct. 9th, meeting was held at Coaldale Hospital.

Nov. 12th, Dr. Elizabeth T. O'Hearn, Shenandoah, was named as a candidate.

December meeting held at Pottsville, and large attendance noted. Among many topics discussed was mortality of appendicitis, which had increased in the U. S., 23.3 per cent. between 1913 and 1923, and the cause was thought to be use of laxatives before consulting their physician.

Jan. 7th, 1930, the Society presented resolutions on the death of Dr. G. O. O. Santee, Cressona.

Mar. 4th, quarantine for dogs was requested due to presence of rabies in this county.

Apr. 10th, resolutions were presented on death of Dr. Edmund W. Samuels, Mt. Carmel; member for many years.

At the June meeting, a discussion was held on goitre.

Resolutions presented on death of Dr. A. J. Berkheiser, Shenandoah.

Sept. 23, at Coaldale State Hospital the topic of appendicitis being on the increase was noted.

Oct. 21st, resolutions presented on death of Dr. D. S. Marshall, Ashland.

Resolutions were also passed upon the untimely death of president, H. H. Holderman, Shenandoah, killed in an auto crash.

Dec. 9th, Drs. L. L. Thompson, Tamaqua; Wm. H. Hermany, Tamaqua, and Waldemar T. Fedko, Gordon, were elected members of the Society. A paper of wide importance was presented by Dr. Wm. V. Dzurek, Pottsville, on Physiotherapy, and displayed intense interest of the author.

Jan. 13th, 1931, officers were: Geo. A. Merkle, Pres.; Wm. J. Scanlan, 1st vice pres.; W. J. Schultz, 2d vice pres.; A. B. Fleming, secy-treas., Dr. Chas. H. Knauer, censor.

Feb. 2d, Dr. Wilmer Krusen, Phila. College of Pharmacy, addressed members, pleading for cooperation of pharmacists, dentists, nurses and doctors, and to have them thoroughly organized. Before adjournment, following were elected for pharmacists: Messrs. Fernsler; Benson and Leon Cazunas. A telegram of sympathy was sent to Dr. Morgan, Phila., on serious illness of his wife, recently operated upon.

Mar. 10th, meeting in interests of dentists was held, and Dr. Frederick H. Johnson, Allentown, represented the dental profession in a fine address, followed by one of Dr. Judson DaLand, Phila., on systemic infection, now demanding attention.

Mar. 22, a special meeting called to take action on new legislation. Petition read from Shenandoah asking aid of the Schuylkill Co. Medical Society in procuring a Hospital at Locust Mountain. Resolutions passed advocating assistance.

May 12th meeting developed into a "Daddie's Day" of Schuylkill Co.

physicians, and Judge Roy P. Hicks made the presentation after being called upon. Dr. A. C. Morgan, Phila., being present, added to the interest of the meeting by extolling the virtues of Drs. Bankes and J. Spencer Callen who had been his preceptors. Dr. David Taggart, Frackville, was one of the "Daddies" specially mentioned.

June 2d, resolutions were passed upon the death of Dr. Wm. H. Matten, McKeansburg; Dr. John T. Ryan, St. Clair; Dr. Wm. Francis Doyle, Pottsville, and the fourth member, when Dr. Victor T. Roth, Pottsville, likewise was remembered in resolutions, an unusual meeting—four noted at one session.

Oct. 20th, Carbon and Schuylkill County joined in session at Coaldale Hospital; Dr. John Kolmer, Phila., the speaker.

Nov. 10th, announcement was made of lengthy illness of fellow-member, Dr. M. C. Householder. Dr. E. V. Tolan, Pottsville, proposed for membership. Drs. Heller and Delp demonstrated use of Spinal Anaesthesia in two operations at Pottsville Hospital.

Dec. 9th, meeting held at Necho Allen, with Dr. Green, of Pennington, N. J., as speaker. Officers for the following year were elected: Dr. Wm. C. Scanlan, Shenandoah, Pres.; Dr. J. Wm. Schultz, Tremont, 1st vice pres.; Dr. Chas. H. Knauer, Mah. City, 2d vice pres; Dr. A. B. Fleming, secy-treas.

Application of Dr. Howard R. Rarick, Frackville, presented. Dr. Householder appeared on crutches, following a long illness.

Jan. 12th, 1932, at annual meeting the retiring president, Dr. Scanlan presented with travelling bag, which was gracefully received. Proved to be a meeting of great promise for the organization.

Feb. 3d, application of Dr. Henry T. Prescott, Cressona, presented.

Mar. 8th, a well delivered lecture was that of Dr. H. M. Eberhard, of the Stomach Hospital, Phila.

Apr. 12, Dr. Clifford B. Lull, Phila., was afternoon speaker.

June 14th, after a meeting of much intensive deliberation, it was decided to dispense with meetings over the summer months.

Sept. 14, the meeting held in reception room of the Reading Country Club.

Oct. 11th, applications of Dr. G. Paul Moser, Ringtown, and Dr. Wm. Franklin Darkes, presented.

Nov. 15th, M. Leon Kazunas, Shenandoah, and Pharmacist F. L. Brown, Auburn, spoke in the interests of the pharmacists of the county. Dr. J. C. Doane, of Jewish Hospital, Phila., gave an interesting talk.

Resolutions were presented on the death of Dr. Thos. D. Casey, Ashland.

Dec. 13, meeting was held in Elks' Home, Pottsville, and a program of interest presented.

New members for 1932 were: Howard R. Rarig, Frackville; Henry F. Prescott, Cressona; Chas. W. Bankes, Middleport; Jos. A. Radzievich, Minersville; Allsworth Sayre, St. Clair; John J. Conway, Shenandoah; Roland C. Moyer, Shenandoah; Robt. C. Carl, Shenandoah; Otto A. Miller Ashland; John H. Erlenbach, Ashland, R. D.; P. Ray Meikrantz, Pottsville; G. Paul Moser, Ringtown; W. F. Darkes, Orwigsburg.

Jan. 10, 1933, annual meeting held in Library Room, officers elected being: Dr. E. E. Shifferstine, Pres.; Dr. Ivor D. Fenton, 1st Vice Pres.; Dr. Francis M. Quinn, 2d Vice Pres.; Dr. A. B. Fleming, Secy-Treas.

Feb. 14, communication was read from wife of Dr. Jas. P. Roth, stating he was improving and hopes entertained for his recovery, having been ill enroute to the South. Resolutions were passed on the death of

the late president, Dr. Wm. J. Scanlan, of Shenandoah.

Mar. 14, resolutions were presented on the death of Dr. Jas. P. Roth, Shenandoah.

Apr. 11th, moving pictures on tuberculosis were shown by Dr. G. F. Bretz, known as "The Story Of My Life—Tee Bee."

May 9th, Dr. B. Franklin Royer, Phila., spoke for Child's Health Emergency Committee, concerning children from families receiving State help. Committee appointed, meeting was held at Locust Mountain Hospital. Clinic was held.

July 11th, Committee selected to change the Constitution and By-Laws made a comprehensive report. They said: On petition of S. C. Spalding, Philip Weber, et al., members of the Schuylkill County Medical Asso., were granted a charter under the name of "Schuylkill County Medical and Surgical Association," by the Schuylkill County Court, in September, 1872, and on July 11, 1933 the name was changed to "Schuylkill County Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania."

Topic of examination of children from homes where State aid was given was widely discussed and co-operation decided upon.

Aug. 8th, Constitution and By-Laws read, revised and finally passed.

Nov. 14th, application was presented by Dr. Thos. Finley McLaughlin. Became a member at next meeting.

Dec. 14th meeting held at Elks' Home and Emergency Relief Committee tendered a plan whereby doctors, dentists, druggists and nurses would cooperate in the work. New members proposed were Drs. Andrew J. Klembara, Pottsville; C. J. Ulshafer, Ashland; R. E. Mitchell, Coaldale; Geo. Hohman, Pottsville; Asa D. Young, Auburn and Warne

L. Haight, Pottsville. Dr. Dzurek presented a program of music that was delightful. General Matthew A. Delaney, of Carlisle Barracks, was speaker.

Jan. 9, 1934, election of officers as follows:

Dr. Ivor D. Fenton, Pres.; Dr. Francis M. Quinn, First Vice Pres.; Dr. Guy Robinhold, Sec. Vice Pres.; Dr. A. B. Fleming, Secy.; Dr. C. V. Hogan, Treas.; Dr. J. Spencer Callon, Censor.

Dr. Warne Haight, Pottsville, Dr. Asa Dougal Young, Auburn, proposed for membership. Both elected. Other propositions, Dr. Louis C. LaBarre.

Feb. 13, Doctors Clifford L. Ushafer, Robert E. Mitchell, Ed. Sion, and Jos. F. Ricchiuti proposed for membership. All were elected.

Apr. 10, 50 medical men attended meeting besides dentists, druggists, nurses, and social workers of the county, in regard to state medical emergency relief.

At this meeting Dr. Laverty, of State Advisory Committee, referred to the fact that Socialized Medicine was making its appearance.

May 10, Prof. L. A. BuDahn requested cooperation of the medical society with the hope of establishing a branch of the New York University in Pottsville.

Sept. 25, Administration of Medical Emergency Relief was the prominent topic.

The year 1934 ended with much enthusiasm by the members of the Schuylkill County Medical Society, a year filled with prominent topics by men high in medical circles resulted, with much good to the society and the public in general.

During its existence Schuylkill County medical men have gone forward in state and national affairs with much credit to all, and have been pioneers in the medical field since its earliest days. In fact

Schuylkill was the first county to propose a state association and since that time county doctors have taken a prominent part in all its activities.

Pioneer Physician's Letters Unearthed

(The following letters were found in possession of Dr. J. Stratton Carpenter, written by his great-grandfather on his entrance into Pottsville in 1829, and are most interesting. They were written on parchment, quite thin; then folded over to form an envelope, then corners sealed with wax, very neatly done. They are kept in a bank vault and bid fair to last several hundred years. We are indebted to Dr. Carpenter for permission to use them.

The letters of his grandfather written during the Civil War are also in the lot, but space will not permit the use of them until a later period. —Editor.)

Letter From James S. Carpenter
Phila., 1829.

to
Thos. P. Carpenter, Esq.,
Carpenter's Bridge, N. J.
Via Bridgeton Stage

Thursday Evening.

I received your note and the enclosed \$10 which was extremely acceptable, having had more than one claim for it. I cannot be angry with them for it because I know they need it, nevertheless, it is very trying to one's feelings. Tomorrow I shall have been here four weeks, and on Saturday, Edward two. The ten dollars will pay three weeks and the servant a month, so that this week will make us three weeks behind. If you can do so send it up next week. If you cannot, I must grin and bear it. I want a few dollars for purpose I mentioned to you, but till you can pay the board, I must borrow, as I have done.

I went to Joe Miller's house on Monday morning, and found that he has gone out of Pottsville, the servant knew not where, but he would be home that night. I went next morning and followed him from his house to the bank, from the bank to his store house, and finally gave it up, not being able to find him at either place. I went again at half after one, his dinner hour, and understood he had started for Washington that day. I think you had better write to him at Washington, or I will do it when I urge my own suit. Next week I will write to Miller & Luttenheim. Mr. Jones promised to write this week. I do not know that

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he has done it. Evan Rich who promised to write to Dickinson Frelingheusen, and to speak to his brother B. B. H. failed to do so.

I took much trouble in endeavoring to see Miller, but did not. When I went to see him for myself, I was near two days in finding him.

I wish you to send me by the stage tomorrow, or next day at the farthest, all the bones that I left in the office. You will find them in the bookcase drawer, or under the shelf, and some on the top of the case. There may be some in the blue case of drawers wrapped up in paper; send them all. I cannot decide what I want, therefore, I say send them all. I forgot them when I came away. I will send a bag to put them in and you will please to charge the driver to be careful and not break them.

Adieu mon cher ami,

Yours Affectionately,
Brother James,
(Dr. James S. Carpenter).

Pottsville, Pa., Apr. 9, 1830.

My Dear Brother:

I received your very welcome letter by yesterday's mail. When you get as far from home as I am you will be able to form some idea of the pleasure of hearing from home. I therefore hope, as you would desire to gratify me, that you will prove a punctual correspondent. The pleasure I receive in hearing from home is very great and in some measure reconciles me to my place of abode.

I have not found the lost trunk, and fear I shall not, but, all the rest of my luggage arrived without accident.

I was much gratified with your history of events after I left you. It would have been a great source of gratification to me, could I have remained with you but a few days longer. I do most sincerely join with you in wishing that all happiness may attend our dear sister in her new and important Station—she merits it all.

I have been, since my arrival here, almost constantly employed in exploring the country around Pottsville. It is really astonishing to see the rapidity with which towns are springing up in Schuylkill County. There are at least 25 towns within 10 or 12 miles of Pottsville the lots of which are nearly all sold and many houses erected upon them. These houses are all rented before they are finished, and sometimes before the foundation is laid. The family, or rather families move into them as soon as they get the roof on,

and the weatherboards are nailed on, the windows nailed up if it storms, and generally they cook out of doors until the chimney is made. A man owns a tract of land through which a railroad runs or upon which it terminates. He selects a spot suitable for building in some valley, cuts down the timber, divides it into lots and in a few weeks they are sold for \$200 or perhaps \$500 a piece and all this before a house has been built, the railroad made, or the ground cleared. In six months you find 50 or a hundred houses and all the etcetera of a town.

You may think I exaggerate, but indeed the history of Pottsville is almost a romance. The progress that Schuylkill County has made within the last four or five years has outstripped prophecy. Has made, did I say, aye, is making. This town looks now like one continued carpenter shop and mason's shop. And what is all this owing to? Coal, and nothing but coal.

(At great length Dr. Carpenter goes on to say how much he could make on mining coal, opening at least four veins at one time, figuring how much could be made in a year, but he evidently decided to stick to his profession—a doctor.)

He again says: I have several patients, one I am attending who has a chronic inflammation of the lungs. He has been very ill, but is much better. Dr. Littell will not return to Pottsville, but in place of him we have a Doctor Halberstadt who has settled here. He will help out his practice by opening a coal mine. Dr. Ramsay has settled at Port Carbon, two miles from Pottsville, and will also be connected in the coal business.

(Signed) Affectionately,
Brother James,
(Dr. James S. Carpenter).

To Thos. P. Carpenter
Carpenter's Bridge, W. New Jersey
Pottsville, April 22, 1830.

My Dear Brother:

I received your letter in due time in which you state you find it impossible to engage in the coal business. With this conclusion I am content. I had much rather practice medicine than deal in coal.

I have just received a letter from my dear sister with which I was much pleased.

Mr. Little, a very particular friend of mine is going to the City in the morning and he will put this in the post office then. I did not know of his going till this evening or I should have had a

longer letter for you.—By the way, is paper so scarce that you can afford but half a sheet for a letter?

I pass my time here as agreeably as I could expect to do anywhere outside of Philadelphia. I know of no place where the society of gentlemen is so good. We have some first rate young men in this house. There is no stiffness here. Every man appears to be at his ease, and to enjoy himself. We have, I think, all the pleasures of good society without the formality that usually attends it in the city. I visit several families here as intimately as if I had been acquainted with them for years. We have not many ladies as yet, but there are several very pretty and very agreeable ones notwithstanding.

I was much pleased with meeting Miss Clarkson here from Phila. who has been staying with her sister-in-law Mrs. C. I had met her before at Jessie's once, but I felt as if she was an intimate friend. The Misses Cummings are the beauties of Pottsville. They are both "young and handsome," and "they have the gift to know it." Do not think I am smitten. No. I have not forgotten the charming——.

I have just been interrupted by one of the gentlemen who wishes to be bled; having performed the operation to his satisfaction I again resume my pen although "Tis now the witching hour of night."

Since I last wrote you I have had several new cases—one case in the town of a very respectable man who has taken nearly two ounces of laudanum supposing it to be, as he said, lavender. He has recovered.

On the whole I feel much encouraged. I have more patients than I could have expected.

I have joined a stable club by which I shall be able to keep my horse at about \$2 per week instead of \$3, which I have been paying the last three weeks. My board is \$3.50 a week.

James S. Carpenter.

Pottsville, May 29, 1830.

Letter from Dr. James S. Carpenter, to his Brother, Thos. P. Carpenter, Carpenter's Bridge, W. N. J.

Dear Brother:

I have just been taking a nap, having been out part of last night to see a man who was stabbed in a quarrel in nine places. About 12 o'clock five Irishmen came over from the West West branch of the Schuylkill Railroad and called me up, and wished me to

visit their companion who had been stabbed. This was no pleasant job for the night was dark as pitch, the road the worst in the county, and to go among a band of drunken men—perhaps with their blood up was no slight affair. However, putting a loaded pistol in each pocket I sallied forth. The men carried a lantern and piloted the way while I followed on the faithful Joe—giving him the liberty of finding his way over rocks, through mud holes almost equal to Slough of Despond in the Pilgrim's Progress, and finally through a forest, which the light of the sun scarcely penetrated. You may think the difficulties of the way exaggerated. Ask Wilkins or Kinsell. They traveled it with me when they were here and the latter wanted to know how I got along in such a road at night. However, I arrived safe. The wounds are all superficial but one in the side which penetrated the intestines, which is a dangerous thing. In such cases, however, Nature, by a process of her own, guards against the threatened danger and in most cases effects a cure in spite of the doctor.

I began, I believe, by saying I had been napping but in stating the wherefore, I had like to have forgotten what I intended to say about napping. I have just been dreaming of home and Phila., and the impression was so strong when I awoke that I determined to write to you, especially as you were one of the principal personages in the dream—and as I had not answered your last letter. I do not mean to punish you with recital of it; however pleasant it may have been to me. You can scarcely enter into my feelings when I say it is pleasant to revisit my dear native land—though 'tis all but a dream.

The influx of doctors here is astonishing—two more have put up their names within the last two weeks, and several more came for that purpose but were discouraged and left. Although the prospect is not so good as when I came here first, yet by no means am I discouraged.

(Doctor) James Carpenter.

(Letter Dated June 8th, 1830)

Wrote to say the town was perfectly healthy, hence he was struggling hard to make ends meet. His own and horses board kept him busily engaged to meet expenses. He said he was darning his stockings, mending his pantaloons and gloves, which made him think deeply of his sister and mother.

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

Pottsville, July 16, 1830.

Letter from Dr. Jas. S. Carpenter to Thos. P. Carpenter, Carpenter's Bridge, West New Jersey.

My Dear Brother:

I have some expectation of obtaining an office room when I will be better able to write you intelligent letters. Mr. Palmer from Mt. Holly causing it to be erected, a row of buildings intended for offices and to be called the Arcade. The building is three stories high besides a cellar. The first and second floors to be occupied as offices, the upper as bed rooms. It is intended to have seven rooms on a floor, each 14 feet square with a piazza in front six feet wide. One of these offices I think of renting, the only objection to it is the price which is rather high. They expect to get \$150 per annum for each office. I could afford to give \$100 and perhaps I may get one for that sum. I can afford it in this way—If I have an office, by having a settee or couch in it I can sleep there and get my board for \$3.00, one dollar less than I am obliged to pay now, so that the office would cost me in fact but \$50. Mr. Palmer will rent this building for about the same sum it will cost them to erect it. The cellar is intended for an eating establishment.

There is another plan which, if I can bring to bear will better answer than paying \$100 or \$150 per annum for an office. The great difficulty is to procure a spot of ground in a suitable location to put it on, lots being very scarce and very high on Centre St. If I can get a lot 12 or 15 feet front and 15 or 20 feet in depth and a moderate ground rent, it would be much cheaper to build an office than to rent, especially if you could have it cut and framed at home and then send it up by the canal boats. To build one here would cost about \$150 but if framed at home, it would cost but a very trifle. The whole expense would not exceed \$40 a year and I should save more than \$50 in my board by it. I think I can get a lot for \$20 a year ground rent.

We have four daily stages from Phila., and two from New York by way of Easton, besides many others from different places. All arrive well filled with passengers. In addition to this, many families arrive in the return canal boats with their goods. A few days back about 150 Durham people from England arrived here by the canal, all miners.

As Dr. Horner used to say when scarce of subjects this place is "alarmingly healthy." For the last few weeks

I have had little to do excepting a few accidents, such as an Irishman's broken head, a Dutchman who in blasting rocks, came near blowing his brains out but escaped with the loss of his eyes, and a Quaker that had his arm laid open with an axe.

Letter to his brother,
Thos. P. Carpenter,
Carpenter's Bridge, West N. J.

Pottsville, December 11, 1830.

After sending his love to the family, he speaks of the medical profession in Pottsville, he speaks of the newspaper published by Mr. Bannan, and says it is a wonderful paper. He also says a Mr. Wallace who had been the editor, left for New York State but was returning here, or Reading.

He states that some of his friends hesitate to employ him due to being a single man, and after some explanation, he says, "I think the advice good and would follow it but that the dread of something after marriage makes a coward of me, and makes me rather bear those ills than fly to others that I know not of. Poverty makes cowards of us all.

Doctor McCulley has perhaps the best practice of any of us. He is a married man of pleasing manners and respectable acquirements in the medical art. He practiced in Phila. a number of years before he came here.

Doctor Chichester, postmaster, has a pretty good practice, but I believe it has diminished since his taking office. He is a German and is favored by those who cannot speak anything but German.

Doctor Sauber, another man who has had much practice here has taken into partnership a Doctor McClenagh from near Phila., a quiet, clever, dull sort of a fellow, completely under command of his partner, Sauber, who is an old resident.

Doctor Horning was formerly connected with Sauber, but has declined practice.

Doctor Tweed is another one, an old resident, a clever, good natured sort of a man with but a little practice here. He is a married man and has an office in the central part and keeps a small drug store.

Doctor Glenwright does not appear to have much practice. He has been here a year longer than I have.

Doctor Halberstadt came here a week or two after I came, was married to a lady in Phila. a few weeks since—a Miss Somers, and has, in connection with Mr. Guest, a handsome drug store with an office at-

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tached to it. This is of great advantage to him, being not only profitable as a drug store but gives him a good deal of practice which he otherwise would not have.

Doctor Robinson, a physician from Maryland, came here last summer.

Doctor Boyd came here from New York a few months ago. He is a well read and intelligent man, a good physician.

Pottsville, Mar. 5, 1831.

In another letter to his brother he says his practice has increased wonderfully, but a depression had fallen over the country, and it caused much distress. "This scarcity of money occurs in all classes, rich and poor, and Pottsville has wealthy men whose notes have been protested in the banks, though they have \$200,000 or \$300,000. You may think it strange. 'Tis true 'tis strange, and strange 'tis true." This condition prevented the doctor from collecting his bills.

Pottsville, May 7, 1831.

He says, "It is difficult to collect sufficient money to pay my expenses, but other physicians appear to have even more difficulty than I, one doctor's horse has been sold for debt. Dr. Glenwright has left entirely, lost all his practice after being here two years."

Pottsville, June 29, 1831.

After writing to the family the doctor says, "Pottsville has been thrown into a state of excitement by the report of a duel having been fought in this place by two gentlemen. It appears that the aforesaid gentlemen had some dispute the evening previous when one called the other a liar, upon which he was knocked down. The parties, accompanied by their seconds and surgeons left Pottsville about 2 o'clock a. m. and returned about 12 noon without one of the principals. He was left, however, unhurt at Orwigsburg, about 8 miles from this place. So far it seems to be well ascertained, but that they fought, or that a challenge passed between them—there is no proof, as yet. I write this that you may be under no mistake from idle rumor or newspaper reports which no doubt will soon reach you. There was a false report of a duel having occurred here some time ago involving a man entirely innocent of the charge, but on the subject of the above, tact is the word—a surgeon knows nothing about these affairs.

Pottsville, July 21, 1831.

He says, "I am truly sorry that the

affair I mentioned to you (the duel) should have given you any uneasiness, especially as there was no cause for it whatever.

"I was surgeon to one of the parties but went more for the purpose of preventing anything serious from occurring. One, indeed both of the parties, were particular friends of mine, as well as friends to each other before this event. They were both naturally generous, noble hearted and good tempered men, but when aroused as determined and brave as any men I have ever met with. The evening on which the quarrel took place they had been drinking wine pretty freely and some misunderstanding of a trifling nature took place. A verbal challenge was sent and accepted. The first intimation I had of the affair was from his friend who called me up about 2 o'clock in the morning and asked me to go with them to McKeansburg, about 12 miles distant, that the parties had quarrelled and insisted upon fighting, but as they were heated with wine, by the time that they had arrived at the place appointed, they would be sober, and would come to an accommodation, and that knowing me to be a friend of his I might exert my influence to prevent a meeting. Both the seconds assured me that if they could prevent it they should not fight, and had no doubt of effecting a reconciliation. Under these circumstances I went, although I at first declined. The surgeons and seconds did their utmost to prevent the duel after they got on the ground, but without success. They took their stations at the word, one fired—missed; the other reserved his fire, then fired in the air—they then became reconciled, each protesting the friendship they felt for each other. The affair was suspected, but not known, and is not known now for certain, most persons believing that nothing occurred—that it was all a hoax.

The parties have not been molested in any way, so that you need not be under any apprehension with regard to a prosecution. Not one of them is, or could be bound over, because nothing was known on the subject by any but the parties concerned. If I had thought they would go on with it, I should certainly have declined to go with them, but I was called upon by both seconds to go along and try to accommodate the affair. As a friend who had some influence over them I felt bound to go. With regard to fighting a duel myself, you need not be under any apprehension.

Nothing would induce me to do it but the extremest circumstances.

If not prevented by principle, interest or fear, my regard to the feelings of my family, more especially my mother, would prevent it. I have given you a detailed account of the affair believing the circumstances under which I was placed, form sufficient excuse for my conduct. I went not for the purpose of aiding, but preventing a duel.

P. S.—Let me also assure you that under no circumstances again will I be accessory to a duel, knowingly or willingly.

I have mentioned several times what accommodation, and use, the sulky would be to me, particularly in rainy weather. I have suffered several times from the effects of it, when it might have been prevented. I have no objections to riding on horseback in good weather and short distances, indeed I have preferred it, but lately, that is this Spring and Summer, I have had particular patients as far as 26 miles, 20 miles, etc., when I was obliged to hire a sulky.

To ride 50 or 60 miles a day on horseback is more than I can stand. The roads in Summer, and in dry weather at all seasons as good as any roads can be that are hilly, and the turnpike is always good. For these reasons, if you have not sold the sulky, I wish you would send it to me, with the harness, by taking it to the Schuylkill and putting it on board of a coal boat. I shall receive it at a trifling price.

Pottsville, August 25, 1831.

I have had miners' cases, one in which the coal had fallen while at work. A rib was fractured, head lacerated severely, shoulder and body cut, and bruised internally. Fate was doubtful for a few days, but finally recovered. The second had his collar bone broken and his head so much injured as to produce concussion of the brain. He is now out of danger. The third is a child five years old thrown from a wagon along with her mother, grandmother and another woman; all more or less injured but the child had its head cut so as to turn the scalp back two inches in a triangular cut from the skull bone.

There has been another affair of honor in this ville—two gentlemen had a quarrel about nothing, as usual in such cases. A challenge was given and accepted. The parties met, exchanged shots, the challenged party fell and the crimson tide rushed from his breast. "Oh, God," exclaimed the

opponent and fled. His friends locked him up in a secure place and shipped him off next morning on the stage to Phila. It was said he acted with the utmost coolness throughout the whole affair, although a hot headed man. It appears, however, that the seconds had contrived together to prevent the effusion of blood, and had merely loaded the pistols with beef's gall or some red substance. It was the greatest farce I ever heard of. Baker, the challenger thinks to this moment that he has wounded, if not killed his antagonist, and has fled from the place on account of it. The other party has quite recovered from the fright, which was the only injury he received.

You have doubtless heard from the papers an account of a certain robber who infested the road between this place and Sunbury. The last man he attempted to rob, he shot through the top of his hat. The horse started and threw him; he recovered himself and fired upon the robber as he was again advancing upon him. He missed, but the robber fled.

Pottsville, Jan. 30, 1832.

The weather has been remarkably cold for some days till Saturday when it commenced snowing about 7 o'clock p. m. and continued without interruption till this morning (Monday). We have now about 15 or 18 inches of snow on as fine a foundation as I ever saw. There has been sleighing since last Wednesday on ice, principally. Last Thursday the thermometer stood at 12 degrees below zero, in the entry of one of the best houses in Pottsville—Esq. Nichols, with fire in both parlors—"Think of that, Master Blooke."

This morning I conversed with one of the principal engineers of the Central Railroad on the subject of engineering in general, but particularly on the requirements necessary for beginners. I asked him if there would be any vacancies in the Spring. He supposed there would be, but did not know as he has not the appointments. He promised to let me know if they should require an assistant, or any situation suitable for Edward and have no doubt but that I can get his interest in case it is deemed advisable. If I could get him in a situation along with Mr. Mills, (the man I speak of) I should have no hesitation in recommending his acceptance of it. This Mr. Mills is a pious man who probably would take some care of his morals, as well as his education or improvement in engineering.

The prospects for business seem to be very good for the next year in the

coal trade. Contracts have been made for large quantities of coal at \$2.25 on the landings here, and some refuse to contract for that. This is a material advance from the last year's price of \$1.50.

I was detained in Reading all day Sunday in coming up on account of the severe storm, but reached here the next day in safety. My horse improves, I think. I am much pleased with him. He has, however, been injured in his forefeet by bad shoeing which caused him to go a little lame. He has what is called a corn in his foot.

Pottsville, Aug. 31, 1832.

As told you in previous letter, I have entered partnership with Dr. Sorber, and am better pleased with it than I expected. He is decidedly opposed to bleeding in most of our fevers. But in cholera asphyxia, of which we have been called to see the great majority of cases that have occurred here, I have made a convert of him. He practices and advocates blood-letting. I have the honor, quantum valeat, of being the first here to advocate bleeding in cholera. I have been very successful. Dr. Sorber, Chichester, and myself bleed, cup, give emetics of salt and water, administer calomel in scrupulous doses without scruple. Several other physicians here oppose bleeding, so a chism has arisen between the doctors and the people as well, but I believe the advantage has been on our side. We have had the most of the cases, and have been successful and are fortified by the authority of Chapman and others of Phila.

You may have heard in the last few weeks of Dr. Mifflin, who has been appointed by the Schuylkill Navigation Co. to visit the line of the canal and attend to the boatmen. He is a young man who has been resident physician in one of the cholera stations in Phila., under the direction of Chapman. I was introduced to him. He detailed the treatment as pursued there and I found that I had adopted and was then practicing on the same plan. This, of course, was gratifying to me, and as my practice was known to be the same as that which he advocates with Chapman authority, it gained me some credit, nevertheless there is a strong opposition from the other parties. Last week the papers reported erroneous accounts, saying there were three cases and three deaths. Double the number were cured which it was thought advisable to suppress. Those that died were intemperate, miserable wretches who were past all hope when

we were called to see them. They were not bled; it was too late. Every case where we have bled has recovered, but one, and his life was prolonged and his symptoms relieved for a time, it did no harm.

This week we have had ten cases in our private practice and one death, that one had been sick ten hours and past redemption; no pulse, blue as indigo, cold surface, cold tongue, breath, etc.

From what I have seen of the disease here, from what I have read of the disease and its treatment, from post-mortem examinations, the treatment of the disease in Europe and Asia, and heard of in this country, I am convinced that blood-letting judiciously timed, is the safest and best remedy that we can use.

In a previous letter Doctor James talks of a Mr. Bull, an agent for the America Coal Co., who has sent men over to him for treatment, and he himself employs the doctor for treatment.

Speaking of his partner, Dr. Sorber, he said he is an active politician, but the doctor wants him to form a partnership in order to enable him to further his political ambitions. He has renounced Jackson for his veto. "The tide is setting against him here, many of his most respected adherents of the present administration have turned against him, and I venture to say that in Pottsville, Jackson is politically dead."

Pottsville, Mar. 13, 1833.

Letter to Mrs. Sarah Carpenter, Carpenter's Landing, N. J. (Mother):

Talking about death, there has been a fatality among the children of this place. Yesterday there were three lying dead at one time. They were none of my patients, but Doctor McCully was the unfortunate physician. I understood it was the measles. In our practice, since my return, we have lost but three patients, they were children affected with inflammation of the throat. We have had a good many cases of measles, but have not lost one from that disease. It seems to me that diseases generally have been more malignant than usual here, certainly they have been more prevalent than ever I knew them since I have been here.

Since our return (evidently had been married) we have been boarding at the hotel where I formerly boarded. It is the most convenient situation for my business, being opposite our office and has been the means of getting more business. The principal objection is

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going to the public table, there are, however, a couple of young ladies in the house who keep Camilla company. They are very pleasant girls and make the house much more agreeable. I hope before long to get to housekeeping which I would much prefer. Camilla has enjoyed very good health and appears to be well contented with her lot. I am perfectly satisfied with her and enjoy myself much more than when I was in a state of single blessedness. I feel as if I had a home and an interest in somebody else besides myself.

The people here are putting in Incorporated Coal Cos., and introducing water into the borough, and others are trying to defeat them.

The Episcopal Church has been improved, altering the pews and putting additional ones in it; a belfry has been erected and a fine bell put in it. The Catholic Church has also had an addition put to it.

On Sunday last, a man was arrested a few miles from this place charged with murdering a girl on the canal last Fall. He is committed for trial.

Pottsville, Apr. 9, 1833.

To Brother Thomas Carpenter:

Col. Shoemaker, with whom we board is a carefree sort of a fellow. In money affairs, he is never one to worry.

My business has been very good all Winter and we have booked a great deal but not collected much. Next Summer when money gets more plentiful, we shall undoubtedly come in for our share. But the difficulty is to get along now, nothing can be had here for credit but physician's services. We have book accounts to the amount of \$800 since last August, and we shall have some long bills against the Boroughs and Townships, the poor of which we attend, and which we shall get perhaps this Summer. We have bills against the Overseers of the Poor to the amount of four or five hundred dollars.

August 21, 1833.

In a letter of this date he says if it were not for the miners and laborers here, he would be in financial distress, for they are the best patients, they pay better. They got nothing from the better chaps.

He states that Camilla and the "little boy" are well.

October 9, 1833.

Of the ultimate prosperity of Pottsville and region generally, I have no doubt whatever, and I have made up my mind to consider it as my abiding place.

Pottsville, August 4, 1834.

To Thos. P. Carpenter:

It has been so long since I wrote to you, or you to me, that I am at a loss to know whether I owe you a letter, or ought to blame myself, or blame you. But on looking at your last letter, I think that you owe me one, be that as it may I am by no means desirous of discontinuing our intercourse, indeed, I had hoped to have had a visit from you, at least before this time. Here have I been for more than four years separated from all my connections, toiling for the things that perish, and not an individual of all my numerous relations has felt sufficient interest in my welfare to pay me a visit.

My wife's relations are more considerate. We have with us now, Mr. and Mrs. Sanderson, Virginia; and Miss Sophia Parry. Cornelius is in Phila., and Susan is at Brandywine with Matilda.

Regina Sorber was here a short time ago on her way to Phila. She has been on a religious visitation up the Susquehanna. She held a meeting here which I attended. I also called to see her.

I have nothing new to tell you, but this depression is in a lamentable state. This section of the country is suffering terribly. All classes seem to be affected. Many of our merchants handling coal have suspended their shipments because they cannot pay the toll on the canal. Miners and laborers generally are paid with orders on stores where they are charged double the real value of an article. This and low wages keep them poor enough. Some of our largest landowners are tottering and will probably be sold out by the sheriff within a year. In fact, everything wears a most gloomy aspect. Credit is gone, mechanics generally have refused to let work go out of their shops unless they are paid for it. This they say is absolutely necessary in order to get along. Many, very many have left the region altogether. A large number have gone to the Western country. Perhaps no section of country has suffered in an equal degree with this by the ruinous experiment of the executive. There is every indication that the partnership existing between Dr. Sorber and myself will be dissolved.

Pottsville, March 14, 1835.

Letter to Thos. P. Carpenter:

You certainly had a tremendous cold ride the morning you left here. I sent you a paper containing a statement of the weather report about that time—below zero, thirty-four degrees

—I think I wonder you did not perish.

Camilla says she has not forgotten your guard chain—that you shall have it some of these days. Johnny and his Mamma are sitting alongside of me. He is saying after her, "I send my love to my Uncle Thomas and Grandma"—one word at a time. He can speak much better than when you left. Indeed he can repeat almost every word but Farquhar, and him he calls Fawer. By the way, I believe you know that Virginia is engaged to Edward Farquhar. They will be married next Summer or Spring. About May or June, it would be delightful for you to come up and see us. Can't you bring mother up along? If you had a light vehicle you could come up in two or three days with ease. Can't you persuade Dr. Fithian or Uncle Charles to pay me a visit.

Before you were here I dissolved partnership with Dr. Sorber but most of my things were still in his office. He has by his own misconduct involved himself very much in debt. Last Saturday, he was to have been sold out by the sheriff, and levy has been resting on his personal property for nearly a year, including his office furniture and medicines. The sale was stopped by another creditor who, to save himself, bought up the previous judgment and now wishes to sell Sorber's house and lot at private sale. If it brings what he asks for it, \$1800, it will just about clear off the judgments which are entered up against it, leaving his personal property and office clear. If this is done I shall escape in the end pretty well.

For a month past I have been incessantly engaged in the business of my profession. Last week I was up three nights in succession, nearly all night. I was up six nights out of eight, just in that severe weather about the 5th of March, thermometer at zero, and three below one morning. I have been booking for the last month quite a nice sum daily. My horses as well as myself have suffered from the severe duty. I ride some days 30 miles a day.

August 6, 1835.

Letter to Thos. P. Carpenter:

I am convinced the patent I am interested in with Mr. Sanderson is a worthy one. My first impressions have been confirmed by experience. The first cure that I fitted was a bad one of eight years duration, large, a broken down constitution, had tried several trusses, but could not wear them more than a few days on account

of the pain which they produce. I made up my mind that I could cure almost anyone if I could cure this case. I have cured him, and although he still wears the truss until the parts become consolidated as a matter of prudence, yet he can, and has gone without the hernia descending in the least. He wears the truss without suffering the least inconvenience from it, and says he would as leave wear it as not to wear it. Praises it highly. Says he would not take \$2000 for the truss if it had not cured him. Has offered to give me a Certificate of the cure. I have cured a boy about 10 years old of a congenital hernia. I have applied it in a case where the protrusion was as large as a head, of years standing, and have retained it without difficulty.

Dr. Hood writes me that he has been examining the cases that he cured a year or 18 months ago and that in every case but two the cure was perfect, in these two cases he says they took them off too soon, before the parts had become consolidated. He goes to London in the Fall with his family. I have not had as many cases as I expected here. I put too high a hope on the instrument before I had established it.

I have no doubt of my success in case I go to France, the only doubt about it is my leaving a good practice here to go to another to seek a practice in a foreign country. When I come to look over the situation I fear I shall have many regrets in leaving here, and I flatter myself, somewhat regretted. Many persons have expressed themselves very warmly on the subject.

August 14, 1835.

Letter to Thos. P. Carpenter:

Mr. Sanderson writes from Paris that he was informed it was advisable to take out a patent for the truss for ten years. On the boat going over he met a Mexican gentleman who was fleeing Mexico to escape the disease of hernia, which he claimed was proving disastrous to his family and friends. His son had it and he would give a thousand dollars to have my treatment. He writes in high spirits and wants me to come at once. I will try every plan, exert every energy to accomplish the desired result, and if I fail in my endeavors, I shall have the consolation of knowing that I did not throw fortune from me when she offered herself to me. I put a truss today on Mr. Whitney, cashier at a Port Carbon branch bank.

August 27, 1835.

Letter to Brother Thomas:

I am only waiting for the available funds with which to go to France. Mr. Sanderson is in good spirits and anxious for me to go there. I could sell out my practice but that would mean I could not again practice here and I know of no place where I could do so with more advantage. I have trussed four new cases within a few days and have had several other applications. I put on two good cases today. It is just beginning to get notice. Several have been writing to see the result of my first cases.

My general practice has been very good this year, much larger and more lucrative than ever before. I have heard much regret at my intended departure, and if I did not feel the utmost confidence in the result of my visit to France I should decline going. If I am able to complete my finances I shall leave here the latter end of next week.

September 9, 1835.

Letter to Brother Thomas:

My jaunt to France has been postponed, perhaps altogether done away with. I do not feel so anxious about the matter as when I was just waiting, but Mr. Sanderson says a French physician the past year has found a similar cure for hernia as Dr. Ford, that he has cured the King, Duke of Orleans and some one else in the royal family.

April 19, 1843.

To Brother Thomas:

When Aunt Frances and you were here last Spring I promised to send you some trees (maple sugar trees). I spoke for them last Fall but the early cold weather prevented me from getting them. I now send you a lot fourteen (14) which you can divide between you. I have directed them to you going by railroad.

Edw. Farquhar has gone with his family to reside. He has opened an agency for the sale of coal. Sally Ann Ellet has also left us, probably not to return. Since she left John has been going to school to Mr. Pitman. He likes it much and his health is stronger although he studies more than he should. He reads less. He studies Latin and English grammar, geography, arithmetic, etc. I have made arrangements with a cabinet maker a few doors from our house, to let him work in his shop, after school hours, to make him handy with tools. I intend that he shall learn the trade. This will do him no harm, even if he does study medicine, law or divinity. It

keeps him out of the street, gives him something useful to do, and the knowledge of the trade may be useful some day, he can have that to fall back on as a corps de user.

I think it probable that I will run down one of these days and take tea with some of you. I shall take advantage of the first opportunity to do so, the only question is when will that opening occur. The price of Liberty is eternal vigilance. A large practice in medicine is only retained by untiring industry. Our town is swarming with doctors—English, Irish, Dutch and native—Allopathics, homeopathics, regulars, quacks, all ready to pick up a practice that is not given the best attention at all times, and they look with envious eyes on my practice.

Did you see and did you know Dr. Zaccur Prall? He spoke highly of your effort at the trial. He loves the law but practices physic.

September 30, 1843.

To Mrs. Sarah Carpenter, (Mother):

Rejoice with me, O my mother! Rejoice that a man child is born unto us, and then rejoice again, for a second. Last night Camilla was delivered of two fine boys, as fine as your two eyes would wish to look upon. Two beautiful boys alive and well. Think of that and feel proud. Camilla is quite smart, and a little put out at the disgrace as she calls it, but pleased in spite of herself.

The "Camilla," above-mentioned was Camilla Sanderson, daughter of John Sanderson, for whom Sanderson Street was named. Mr. Sanderson's other daughter, Virginia, married Edw. Farquhar. Mr. Sanderson was married to a Miss Sophie Curre, whom he met in Philadelphia while he was principal of a private school there. Mr. Patterson, a friend, was asked to secure a lot for him. The Farquhar lot afterwards became the site of the Court House.

In his letters, Dr. Carpenter told of a contemplated visit to Paris. He went to Paris taking with him an invention, a wooden block truss, which had been patented by Dr. Hood, of Philadelphia. Mr. Sanderson had gone on ahead to Paris to get the patents. Dr. Carpenter went and remained in Paris for two years after his arrival, and studied in English, French and Scotch Universities before returning in 1837.

One of the twins referred to was Preston Carpenter, the father of Miss Katie Carpenter. The other twin died. The "little John" was the late Dr. John T. Carpenter.

History of Norwegian Township

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* April 5-9, 1935)

The history of Norwegian Township as herewith presented has been compiled and arranged by Prof. M. L. Reddington, Principal of the Seltzer City schools.

No township in the County of Schuylkill has a history of greater importance than that of Norwegian. Within the boundaries of Norwegian were located many potent factors which had to do with the development of the great anthracite coal industry; for instance, it was one of the three first townships erected north of the Blue Mountains. Some of the first turnpikes in the State were built through this District. One of the first canals in the country had its terminal here. Anthracite coal was first discovered in Norwegian. Some of the early railroads were constructed within its borders. Its hills have furnished much of the timber that was used in the development of our towns and cities.

The history of the early settlers is rich in information interwoven with struggles, fortitude, endurance and self-denial. The early settlers passed through many stirring and thrilling vicissitudes, but they were composed of the fibre which makes men. They endured untold hardships, nevertheless they lived and progressed under hard knocks.

First Discovery of Coal

The Norway and the Pinegrove tracts in Norwegian and Manheim Townships were surveyed in 1766. Wm. Scull was of the third generation of surveyors of that name. His father, Nicholas, had surveyed other tracts in this township and his grandfather, Nicholas Scull, had

been Surveyor General of Pennsylvania. In 1769, W. Scull and Wm. Maclay were employed to fix the boundary line between Berks and Northampton Counties, and almost where Ashland now stands, they noticed the existence of coal. The map made by his grandfather, Nicholas Scull, published in 1759 contained coal points which no doubt familiarized them with the situation. About 1790, Necho Allen, who lived at Big Spring on the summit of Broad Mountain, discovered coal through the uprooting of trees, and as legend goes, ignited it to warm himself while out hunting. In 1800, or thereabouts, Wm. Morris took a load of coal from Mill Creek to Philadelphia. The Rickert brothers were early pioneers in the development of the newly discovered mineral. Geo. Rickert and Geo. Shoemaker loaded their wagons and hauled coal to Philadelphia.

Early Settlers

Baltzar Gehr, of German extraction bought a large tract of land in Norwegian Twp. in 1771. He was an active militiaman during 1775-1776, a judge of the county courts, 1775-1784 and a member of the General Assembly from 1782 to 1799. Baltzar Gehr owned a sawmill at the junction of Norwegian Creek and the Schuylkill River. This mill was operated by John Neyman, who lived on the hill in the rear of the present Pottsville Hospital. The first child born in Norwegian Twp.

was a son of Mr. Neyman. Col. Val. Eckert reported to the Council, Aug. 30, 1780, that John Neyman and his family were barbarously murdered by the Indians. (Penna. Archives, Vol. 8, pp. 529-571). The honor of being the first settler of Norwegian belongs to Neyman, the wood-sawyer.

In 1796, Jacob Zoll, innkeeper of Reading, established a small forge near the site of the aforementioned mill. The Indians so harrassed him that he sold his effects to Lewis Reese and Isaac Thomas and moved out of the township. Joseph Zoll, born in the log cabin adjoining the forge, was the second white child born here. Isaac Thomas then lived in Zoll's log cabin which he named Norway. The Minnich, Zoll, Mayfield Wilson, Moorfield and Physic tracts in Norwegian Twp. have formed the nucleus of the present city of Pottsville.

Origin of Township, March 1, 1811

The line between Berks and Northumberland Counties was surveyed in 1795. On Nov. 4, 1799, three new townships were laid out in the upper portion of Berks Co. The newly constructed townships were named Schuylkill, Norwegian and Mahantongo. Berks Co., however, levied taxes on these three districts from 1762 until 1811. Then Rush and West Penn Twps. in the meantime having been lopped off Northampton Co., those five newly created districts together with the three original townships, Brunswick, Pinegrove and Manheim were incorporated into Schuylkill Co. The territory thus incorporated comprised five-sixths of the present area of the county. The remainder of the scope of Schuylkill Co. was ceded from adjoining parts of Luzerne, Columbia and Carbon Cos. The original bounds of Norwegian included all territory between the Sharp Mountain on the south and

the Mahanoy Creek on the north and between Blythe and West Mahanoy Twps. on the east and Mahantongo and Pinegrove Twps. on the west. Township limits at that time were largely determined by stream trails, land elevation, etc. This accounts for the irregular forms of many townships and other divisions.

Population

The population of the district according to the 1810 census was 107, and according to that of 1930 it was 1810.

Subdivisions of Township

The following townships and boroughs were formed from the territory that was originally Norwegian Twp.: Pottsville (1828); Palo Alto, E. Norwegian (1847); Port Carbon (1852); St. Clair (1850); New Castle (1848); Frackville (1876); Girardville (1872); Gordon (1891); Ashland (1846); Butler (1848); Part of Barry (1821); Foster (1855); Cass (1848); Minersville (1838); Branch (1838); Reilly (1857); part of Frailey, 1847. The above dates indicate the date of incorporation of these various districts and not when they were severed from the territory of Norwegian.

Boundary of Township

Cass and New Castle lie to the north, St. Clair and E. Norwegian Twp. to the east, Pottsville to the south and Minersville and Branch Twp. to the west. Hillside which had not been ceded to either Pottsville or Yorkville is isolated from the rest of the township. It is situated on the Sharp Mountain to the south of Pottsville.

The Great Road or King's Highway

The Lightfoot survey of 1759 was the forerunner of the King's Highway built in 1770. This survey led from Reading to Fort Augusta, now Sunbury. From the Minnich tract, Seven Stars, Manheim Twp., on

which there was a road house in 1770 there was not a single dwelling till Fort Augusta was reached where food or shelter for the surveyors could be obtained. This road was cut through a howling wilderness for a distance of forty miles. It was thought that such road leading to the Susquehanna River would greatly enhance trade with the Indians. The route of this road followed the "Tulpehocken Path." It was completed in 1771. It crossed the Schuylkill opposite the present site of the Pottsville Hospital winding around the hill to what is now E. Norwegian St. fording both branches of the river. Bear in mind that Norwegian Twp. then extended from the Sharp Mountain to the southern boundary of Northumberland Co. One branch of the road wound over Clay Monument hill out along the famous Indian path to Fifteenth and Mahantongo Sts. then to York Farm where it formed a junction with that branch which ran along Coal St. through Fishbach to Bull's Head. The road then continued on through Minersville thence to Sunbury. Locally, this highway is known as the Sunbury Pike. At the point where the York Farm and Fishbach branches of the pike met in Bull's Head a log cabin was built. The Seltzers of packing house fame settled here and eventually the cabin became the Bull's Head Tavern. Incidentally, this inn became the first polling place in Norwegian Twp. Nicholas Seitzinger lived on a small farm on Bull's Head in the year 1800. His son, Jacob, built the first brick house in Pottsville on the site of the Merchant's Bank. His brickyard was on the site of the Pennsylvania Freight Depot. Nicholas, a second son was an Associate Judge of the county. Jeremiah Seitzinger, son of Jacob, born in Bull's Head, held the offices of Co. Commissioner and Court Crier. Other families con-

nected with the history of this locality were those bearing the names of Kuhl, Yuengling, James, Horn and Gunder. Farther west toward Minersville we find the Bush and Scheithelm farms which were later occupied by the Drye family. On these farms at one time or another, lived families who were known by such names as Fenstermacher, Haussler, Zimmerman, Hinkle, Bernitske, Cavalier, and Ditzel. On the opposite side of the road. George Hahn, who had emigrated from Berks Co., built a frame house in 1894. Living on the George Bush farm at present we find the following families Greenberg, Krizon and Ciemochowski.

The First Turnpike Road

The first turnpike road, seventy-five miles long, running from Reading to Sunbury, was chartered and incorporated in March, 1805. Its course ran through Pottsville on Centre St. out by the cemeteries and on to Sunbury. Centre St. was then a vast marsh, and the lowest points were filled in with logs and stones—this was the first "corduroy" road hereabouts. Near the present boundary between Pottsville and Norwegian a log house was built and a farm cleared. Just north of the steel mill we find the McMullin tract. This section of the township is known as Peach Mt. When coal mining was in its infancy, this region was the scene of many mine operations. Approximately one mile north of the log house on the pike, a branch was run off to the left going north to connect with the Sunbury trail. Again a log house was erected at the junction and a small farm was cleared. The Madeira family lived here for many years. Adjoining the Madeira farm on the north Anton Marx, a native of Alsace-Lorraine, settled and farmed for years. He also conducted a dairy. His descendants still carry on.

Now let us follow the connecting link between the Sunbury Trail and the Centre Pike. This branch continued down the hill, forded the Norwegian Creek ascended and crossed Peacock Hill and connected with the Sunbury Trail near the present home of the Krizon family. Two fairly large farms were cleared along this branch—the Delaware on the north and the Forty Acres (Seltzer's) on the south. The Doll family lived on the Delaware farm also, they operated a small coal mine on a hill adjacent to the farm. This mine was called Doll's Coal Hole. This farm antedates to 1825. "Wash" Lechleitner in 1881 took possession of this farm having emigrated from West Penn Twp. George, a son of "Wash", is now living on the farm also conducting a progressive and up-to-date sanitary dairy.

The Forty Acre farm was located on the present site of Seltzer City. It was originally cleared and owned by the Seltzer family who had formerly lived in Bull's Head. This family later moved to Pottsville where the descendants conduct a meat packing industry. A farm house was built here for the convenience of the hired farmer. Mr. Biddle, was the first to occupy the building. Afterwards in succession the Kirchner, Schuck and Raatz families were tenants. The last mentioned in addition to cultivating the farm conducted a hotel and a hay market. In 1895, the farm was sold and laid out into streets and building lots. At present, it is known as Seltzer City.

The Schuylkill Canal

On March 8, 1815 an act was enacted by the Legislature incorporating the Schuylkill Navigation Co. The work of construction was laid out in two sections—one body of laborers worked on the project from Philadelphia to Reading, the other

from Reading to Mill Creek, Norwegian Twp. The distance required to be covered is one hundred eight and two-thirds miles. It was completed and ready for navigation in 1821. By 1825 the port at Mt. Carbon was doing a brisk business in the shipment of lumber, merchandise and also some coal. During the winter months the canal at times could not function due to ice and at such times transportation had to cease. Such conditions finally led to the development of the railroad. During the year 1886, the canal from Hamburg northward was abandoned.

First Railways

The Danville-Pottsville (Norwegian Township then) railroad was incorporated in April, 1826. This road finally became insolvent in 1842. It was sold at sheriff's sale in Jan., 1851. In 1826, Abraham Heebner of Port Carbon, then in Norwegian Twp. built a railroad one-half mile in length to connect his coal mine with the Schuylkill Canal. Thus the third railway to be operated in America was located in Norwegian. In 1829, John Burgett opened a boarding house to accommodate laborers working on the Girard Tunnel through which the Pottsville-Danville R. R. was to run. This tunnel is located about half way between St. Clair and Wadesville. The tent which he used gave place later to a small frame tavern which he called "Cross Keys." This was the first public house in this section of the township. Burgett's daughter, Charlotte, was the first child born in East Mines.

An act to incorporate the Mount Carbon Railway Company passed the State Legislature in 1829. This was the forerunner of the present Reading System. The Mine Hill railroad was chartered March, 1828, finished in Oct., 1831, and connected

Mine Hill with the Sch. Haven locks of the canal. The main line extended from Sch. Haven to Locust Gap.

The Schuylkill Valley R. R. was built to connect with the coal landing at Port Carbon in 1830.

The Mt. Carbon R. R. extended from Mt. Carbon to Mt. Laffee. Horses and mules were first used. When locomotives were adopted, the firms using them reserved the right to return to horses, if locomotives did not prove satisfactory.

On Jan. 1, 1842, the first trip ninety-one miles distant was made over the Reading from Mt. Carbon to Fairmount, Phila. The time required was eight hours.

In 1890 the Pennsylvania R. R. began the building of a branch line from the Nichols St. junction, Pottsville to the Lytle Colliery. While excavating for the cut on the Dyer's section, a splendid vein of coal was unearthed. This is in the eastern end of the cut on the Delaware farm. The first train of coal cars (five) was taken over this road from the Lytle Colliery to Pottsville on the morning of Feb. 16, 1893.

During the summer of 1933 a spur was turned off this road near Brumm's Row, Minersville to make connection with the Oak Hill Colliery.

The Coal Industry

From 1829 to 1836 the North American and the Delaware Coal Cos. were extensive operators in the township; the former worked the Lewis and Spohn veins; the latter the Peach Mt. and the Diamond veins. These operations were both near the site of the Pottsville Colliery. This shaft is situated at East Mines. In 1869 the preliminary work of sinking the shafts was started by the Mammoth Vein Coal Co. In 1870, the P. & R. C. & I. Co. gaining control continued the sink-

ing of the shafts. The east shaft was sunk to a depth of 1597 feet. The west shaft is 700 feet distant and is of larger dimensions. Both shafts have the same depth and they were said to be the deepest in the country at the time. It was the intention of the owners to make this the greatest mining operation in the anthracite region. Thousands of dollars were spent on this huge development. In fact, it was the big show place of this region. The first shipment of 1810 tons was made in 1875, and the last shipment of 12,485 tons in 1884. The operation is reputed to have been a failure. There are some fine veins of coal beneath the surface. When the coal fields lying to the north are exhausted, capital may be glad to come to the East Mines shafts for its supply of black diamonds.

The closing of this operation in 1884 was a serious blow to the residents of St. Clair and Pottsville as most of its 400 workers came from these towns.

The Red Ash Coal Co. opened a mine on the Thuron tract adjoining the Delaware tract in 1840 and worked it until 1847 when it was abandoned. Another shaft was sunk on the Navigation tract directly north of the Steel Mill near McMullin's field. Both operations shipped over the Mt. Carbon R. R. to the canal. During the financial panic of 1856 the coal operators were forced into bankruptcy and the mines were bought up by individuals and worked by them for a time. But during the panic of 1873, the individual operator became bankrupt and then the mines were taken over again by the large corporations, who still have possession. These two panics together with the loss of the "Knights of Labor" strike of 1887 seriously retarded the mining development in Norwegian Twp. Until the reopening of the

old Williams colliery in 1893, the township was without mining activities.

The Minersville Furnace

In 1869, a stock company was formed by Minersville capitalists for the purpose of operating an iron furnace, located on the present site of Gallo's Row, Furnace Grove. Among the stockholders were: Messrs. Kear, Harley, Duffy, Crawford, Tovey and many others. It was operated until it went into the hands of the receivers during the depression of 1873. The stock was bought by Col. Wynkoop of Pottsville, who operated it until 1889 when he dismantled and abandoned it.

The Minersville Brick Yard

Richard Kear and Mr. Lawrence, the druggist, in 1870 operated a brick yard directly north of the furnace. This industry went out of business during the panic of 1873, due to the high cost of procuring the clay needed.

The Williams Colliery

The Williams Colliery or the "Hurry Up" was located along the Norwegian Creek, one mile north of the Steel Mill. In Nov. 1893, the work of opening it was begun, preparatory to the establishment of one of the largest coal operations in the Schuylkill coal region. The tract was owned by the Red Ash Coal Co. company of capitalists of Wilkes Barre and Scranton the head of whom was Senator Williams. Since the abandonment of the "Hurry Up" the township has been devoid of any mining enterprise. This was in 1902.

Transportation—Trolleys and Buses

The St. Clair short line was constructed through East Mines in 1916. This trolley connection furnished much convenience to the people of this village. The trolley service was discontinued Sept. 1932 and was

supplanted by bus service. The first bus passed through the village on the 11th of Sept., 1932.

The New St. section was without any form of transportation until 1899 when the East Penn Traction Co. commenced to operate cars through the village. The Reading R. R. was used from Fishbach to Doyle's. The first trolley car conveyed passengers over this line on May 13, 1899. The last trolley trip on this division was made Aug. 3, 1930. The bus, as in other sections, superseded the trolleys and the first bus trip was made the day following the suspension of the cars.

Marlin, one of the newer settlements of the township, was exceedingly hard hit on the abandonment of trolley service, as it not only lost trolley transportation but the state road as well. The route of the state highway was changed to the west side of the creek, isolating the village. This section of the district was served for many years either by the Peoples' Railway or the Traction Co. The last trip made by the trolleys through Marlin was made June 30, 1932.

A bus line was opened between Pottsville and Minersville via. Seltzer City on June 14, 1929.

Early Settlers of Briar City

Among the first settlers of this quaint little village of Briar City may be mentioned the following outstanding pioneers: Butcher Sheinheiler, Adam Orff, Charles Gable, John Eichenberg, Nich Eichenberg, Larry Tropp, Tom Mehling, John Schenk, Pat. McCormick, John Judge, Casper Orff, Wm. Holley. The descendants of all these families with the exception of the Gable, McCormick, Mehling, Schenk and Judge families are still living in Briar City. The Briar City schoolhouse was built in 1881. Being replaced by the new school building, George Eichenberg purchased the

old building and constructed a modern abode out of it in conjunction with his old log cabin. The new school was built in 1902.

Early Settlers of New Street

Charles Schafer and Bob Canfield built log houses near the "Cricket Grounds" many years ago. None of their descendants live here now. East of the main highway Jim and Pat Kelly built log houses. On the west side of the highway, George Little erected a log house. Later on Fenton Keenan lived in the Little homestead and afterwards this old land mark was occupied by Edw. Haskins. This family of whom Wm., Mary, and Margaret are teachers and Fenton is a druggist is now located in Phila. Among other old families of this village are: Dan Kramer, Geo. Spotts, Edw. Coughlin, Mike Keating, George Schintz, Mathias Reddington, Martin Casey, John Warlow, Evan Davis, John Price, Evan Owens, whose son William was for many years principal of the Bunker Hill School, Pottsville, Jos. Williams, Jas. Whims, Jim Kelly, and Mr. Haley. Jim Kelly was a Civil War Veteran. The Warlow, Davis, Price, Owens, Williams and Haley names have disappeared from the township. More old families include those of Martin Casey, Bill Kelly, Larry Finn, Pat Ryan, Dan and Mike Kelly, Tom Keating, John Kelly, Finney, the piper, Ned Keating, Pat Little, Nich Curran, John Landers, Martin Curran, Jim Doolin, Pat Malone, Wm. Haskins, Bill James, Ned Britt, Pat Barry, Geo. Colebreaker, Mr. Frankenstein, Jim Brennan, Jas. Little, Jim and Ned Seymour, Mr. Reilly, the Purcell family, Mr. Brennan, and on the back street the following family names: Moore, Coogan, Walsh, Nash, Kuhl, Eichenberg, Connors, McGov-

ern, Doyne, Murphy, Colahan, McMurtrie, Wynn, Wier, Schully, and Screeney.

EDUCATION

The township has neither senior nor junior high school, consequently pupils of these grades are carried by means of bus transportation and taxis to the schools of the districts of Pottsville and Minersville to pursue their studies in the upper grades.

The primitive schoolhouses were constructed of logs, usually located in places most convenient for all those attending. The first school building of log construction stood near the home of Mr. Geo. McGovern on Hurry Up Hill. The first teacher, Mr. Smith taught school here in the year 1853. Another log school building stood opposite the Jos. Kuhl homestead in Bull's Head. This was the second schoolhouse of the district. As a result of the requirements of the Public School Act of 1854, these log buildings were replaced by: first a two-story building of stone construction located on the Minersville pike adjoining the J. J. Murphy estate in New Street, and the second a frame building in East Mines near the shaft, which is still standing and in use. The stone building in New Street was abandoned in 1909 at which time a two-roomed frame building was erected. This building fronts the Curran property in New Street. In order to take care of the boys and girls of Briar City a frame building was erected in 1881 located at the foot of the hill south of the home of the senior John Eichenberg. A new frame building replaced this one in 1902.

A frame building was constructed in Seltzer City in 1909 and an addition was made to it in 1912. This was eventually converted into a four-roomed school and was used as such until 1926 when a new three-room brick building was installed on the hillside above the old building. The pupils of the first and second grades are still being cared for in the class rooms of the old building. A large room in the frame building was fitted up as an auditorium in 1934. The graduating class of 1934 held its commencement exercises in this remodeled room.

In 1914, a frame school was built in the northern section of Marlin. This is a single room structure and at the present time is occupied by the pupils of the seventh and eighth grades. A three-room brick structure was built at the corner of Beechwood and Broad Sts., in 1919. The first six grades are housed in this building. To take care of the southern section of East Mines, a two-roomed brick school was constructed on Mamies Ave., just off the state highway. This is a rural school. The Hillside pupils are transported in a bus to this school. The North America and Deer Park school children attend the schools of the City of Pottsville. The Briar City and East Mines schools are rural schools also.

Teachers

Mr. Smith taught in the first school to be organized in the district during the years 1853 and 1854. When the "Stone School" was constructed, Mr. Smith was transferred to it, teaching the primary grades, with Patrick Curran teaching the upper grades. This was in 1854. Mr. Curran was succeeded by J. J. Murphy and Mr. Smith by Patrick Reilly in the year 1862. Mr. Murphy taught here from 1862 to 1888,

approximately 26 years. Thomas O'Donnell presided in the New St. School from 1888 to 1892. Mr. O'Donnell had an average attendance of 76 pupils and taught all grades, having no assistant. Patrick Moore of Gilberton, completed the unexpired term of Mr. O'Donnell upon his resignation. John J. Reilly was elected in 1893 to take charge of this school. After the stone school was closed in 1909, Mr. Reilly was transferred to the new frame school building just completed in Seltzer City, where he remained until he resigned in 1910.

Dennis Deasy taught the East Mines school in the early days. Patrick Gallagher of East Mines was assistant to Mr. Deasy. Patrick was a member of the talented Gallagher family which gave five of its members to the teaching profession; namely, Patrick, Margaret, Anthony, Celia, and Matilda. They all taught in East Mines except Anthony, who taught in Lost Creek. John Marrah of New St., succeeded Mr. Deasy but he shortly afterward resigned to move to Chicago.

The teachers of the Briar City school in the order of their incumbency: Mich. J. Connors, 1881-1886; Mich. J. McGurl, 1886-1894; Jas. McDonald, 1894-1910; Patrick Little, 1910-1912; Patrick Haverty, 1912-1914; Helen Little, 1914-1918; Patrick Haverty, 1918-1920; Guy Walborn, 1920-1925; John Bohrman, 1925-to Dec. 1925; Anna Fox, Jan. 1926-1927; Robert Wilson, 1927 to the present time. In 1912 Mr. McDonald was elected to take charge of the Seltzer school with Miss Sara Farrell as assistant. In 1915, Mr. McDonald was chosen as the first Supervising Principal of the District which position he filled efficiently until he resigned in 1920. Mr. McDonald held a tenure of 25 years of service in the township schools.

Later teachers: East Mines—Mamie Hanney, 1908-1910; Hilda Seltzer, 1910-1912; Mamie Hanney, 1912-1915; Mae Hall, 1915-1920; Rebecca Boyd, 1920-1921; Mae Hall, 1921 to the present time.

Mamie's Avenue School

Prior to 1917 the pupils of Lower East Mines attended the rural school in Upper East Mines. This condition necessitated a long walk for those children of tender age. Then also the upper school became so overcrowded, that the Board of School Directors felt it expedient to do something to alleviate matters. They prevailed upon John Hanney to allot them a plot of ground on his estate in Lower East Mines for building a new school. The Board had the late Mr. Hill of Pottsville devise plans for a three-roomed brick building. Edw. Motley was awarded the contract. The building was completed and ready for occupancy during the fall of the year 1917. This school contains two class rooms and an office room where the business meetings of the School Board have since been held. The building is modern in every detail, being equipped with lights, running water, a steam heating plant and indoor toilets.

Miss Sara Farrell, now Mrs. Jos. Bergan and Miss Agnes McKeever were the first to teach in this building. At the present writing, the attendance having dwindled considerably, there is only one teacher, Miss McKeever, employed. The Board of Directors in charge of the district at that time was constituted as follows: John Hanney, Benj. Reddington, Wm. Landers, Thos. McKeever and John Hall.

The teachers have been: Sara Farrell, 1917-1920; Mich. O'Brien, 1920-1921; 1921-1922, Sara Farrell, assisted by Agnes McKeever; Sara Farrell, 1922-1924 without an assist-

ant; Agnes McKeever, 1924 to the present time.

New Street school teachers were: John Farrell, 1909-1910; Patrick Curran, 1910-1912; John Bohrman, 1912-1918; Mae Hall, 1912-1915; Mary Haskins, 1915-1918; Helen Little, assisted by Mary Haskins, 1919-1920; Jas. Wilson and Helen Toppy, 1920-1921; Jas. Wilson and Mary McHugh, 1921-1922; Wm. Haskins and Vince Curran, 1922-1923, Mr. Herring teaching one month of this term; Wm. Haskins and Vince Curran, 1923-1924; John Bohrman and Vince Curran, 1924-1925. Mr. Bohrman was elected supervising principal in 1920 and served until 1923 when he was succeeded by Wm. McGann, who has served in this capacity till the present time. Guy Walborn and Wm. Doyne taught in 1925-1926; Guy Walborn and Patrick Curran, 1926-1927; Patrick Curran and Vince Curran, 1927-1932; Helen Little and Wm. Doyne, 1932-1933; Wm. Doyne and Vince Curran, 1933 to the present time. Helen Little was supervisor of penmanship 1924-1932; Wm. McGann was supervisor of art 1921-1922.

Marlin School Teachers

Teachers in the Marlin schools have been: Ed. Haverty, 1914-1915; Margaret Coyle, 1915-1917; Margaret Coyle and Wm. Doyne, 1917-1920; Wm. Shore, Wm. McGann and Anna Burns, 1920-1921; Wm. Shore, Wm. Doyne and Vince Curran, 1921-1922; Miss Luxton, Wm. Doyne and Miss Coyle, 1922-1923. Early in this term Miss Luxton exchanged positions with John Kemmerling at Seltzer. John Bohrman, Wm. Doyne and Miss Coyle, 1923-1924; Wm. Haskins, Wm. D. Doyne, Miss Coyle and Esther Hanney, 1924-1925; Mr. Haskins, Vince Curran, Miss Coyle and Esther Hanney, 1925-1926; Mr. Haskins, Mr. Doyne, Miss Coyle and Miss Hanney, 1926-1932; Mr. Haskins, Patrick Curran, Miss Coyle

and Miss Hanney, 1932 to the present.

Seltzer City Teachers

Seltzer Schools: John J. Reilly, 1909-1910; Mich O'Brien and Andy Ryan, 1910-1912; Jas. McDonald and Sara Farrell, 1912-1915; Sara Farrell, Agnes Brennan and Edw. Haverty, 1915-1917; Edw. Haverty, Agnes Brennan and Miss Kerns, 1917-1918; M. L. Reddington, Miss Brennan, Miss Kerns and Mrs. Mary Garrihan, 1918-1920; Mrs. Klopp, Margorie Crook and Mrs. Julia Nash and P. N. Curran, 1920-1921; M. L. Reddington, R. S. Nauyalis, P. N. Curran and Mrs. Nash, 1921-1922; John Kemmerling, Mr. Reddington, P. N. Curran and Mrs. Nash, 1922-1923. Early in this term Mr. Kemmerling exchanged positions with Miss Luxton at Marlin. Mr. Reddington, P. N. Curran, Mrs. Nash and Anna Fox served in 1923-1924; M. L. Reddington, R. S. Nauyalis, Anna Fox and P. N. Curran, 1924-1925; M. L. Reddington, Margaret Spelyng, Miss Fox, P. N. Curran, and Margaret Lechleitner, from Jan. to the end of term, 1925-1926. In Jan. 1926, Miss Fox was sent to Briar City to succeed John Bohrman. M. L. Reddington, Margaret Spelyng, Vince Curran and Margaret Lechleitner, 1926-1927; M. L. Reddington, Miss Spelyng, Mr. Nauyalis and Miss Lechleitner, 1927-1928; Mr. Reddington, Mr. Nauyalis, Miss Lechleitner and Anna Krederavage, 1928-1929; Mr. Reddington, Mr. Nauyalis, Miss Lechleitner and Miss Krederavage, 1929-1931; Mr. Reddington, Mr. Nauyalis, Mary Boyle and Miss Krederavage, 1931 to the present.

Present Teachers

Those teachers now (1934-1935) in charge of the schools are as follows: East Mines, Mae Hall; Mamie's Ave., Agnes McKeever; New Street, Wm. Doyne and Vincent Curran; Briar City, Robert Wilson; Marlin,

Wm. Haskins, P. N. Curran, Margaret Coyle and Esther Hanney; Seltzer, M. L. Reddington, Robert Nauyalis, Mary Boyle and Anna Krederavage. Wm. A. McGann is the Supervising Principal. Attendance Officers: John Eagan, Peter Roguskie and Louis Sonderhafer. Members of the School Board are: Jos. Padinske, President; Peter Hall, Secretary; Geo. Lechleitner, Vice Pres.; August H. Schmidt, Treasurer, and John McGovern, Jr. Under the very efficient administration of the present Board of Directors, the schools of the district have attained a very high standard of efficiency. All buildings, grounds, equipment, etc. are in full accord with all requirements of the State Department of Education.

SELTZER CITY

In 1896, Messrs. Maurer and Brandon purchased the "Forty Acres" farm from the Seltzer estate. The farm was then laid out into streets and subdivided into building lots. However, before the deeds were conveyed, Jos. Symons, John Bais and Jos. Spelyng had purchased lots from the original owners and had erected dwellings thereon. Edw. Spelyng now Supt. of Schools of Blythe Twp., was the first child born in Seltzer City. Agnes Symons was the second. When the citizens of the village applied for school facilities Jos. Symons was most active in the movement.

Shortly after the purchase of the Forty Acres, Mr. Maurer commenced the building of dwelling houses. The first house built is that now occupied by the Henry Pollman family. Maurer in the course of time sold the Farmer's Hotel to the present owner Frank Adukaitis. The first telephone was installed in the year 1908.

In Nov. 1905, the residents were granted the facilities of the Rural Free Delivery of the mail. This later on proving inadequate, a post office was established in 1920. Mrs. Anna Shucavage was appointed postmistress, which position she still holds.

During the year 1924 the East Penn Power and Light Co. furnished power for the illumination of houses. At the same time the Pottsville Water Co. extended its water main from Deer Park to Seltzer City thus furnishing water facilities to the hamlet. Later on fire-plugs were installed and a volunteer fire company organized. In the meantime Contractor Callahan constructed sewers, graded the streets and placed curbs. The street lights were installed in April, 1930.

The only disastrous fire in the history of the village broke out on the morning of May 14, 1928 in the Rumbavage-Walton property. The homes then occupied by John Rumbavage, John Gana and John Popish were burned to the ground with an estimated loss of \$18,000.

Gallo's Row

David Gallo, a business man of Minersville, purchased a triangular plot of land on the border-line of Minersville and Norwegian Twp. at the foot of Furnace Hill. The purchase was made from the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. in 1924. Mr. Gallo immediately broke ground for the erection of a huge brick warehouse, which is now being utilized by the Bob Co. shirt manufacturers of Minersville. After the completion of the warehouse, Mr. Gallo constructed eleven dwelling houses which were ready for occupancy in Oct. 1927. The dwellings are modern in every respect having an urban appearance with a country environment.

The present tenants are the Ladden family, Paul Elberti, Patrick Maley, Edw. Burke, Thos. Tracey, Wm. Haskins, Matthew Reddington, Mich. McCloskey, Harold Morris, Delaney-Scott families, Louis Dallago and Thos. Muldowney.

The New Street Flute Band

For a number of years the old Frankenstein home on the north side of the Delaware Dam was used as a club house by the men and young men of New St. Jos. Frankenstein organized a flute band in 1884. This organization was hired to attend the local social functions. Mr. Frankenstein was an efficient leader, and the corps, in time, became very proficient. The band consisted of the following: Snare drum, Edw. Keating and George Hoffman; Bass drum, Al. Brennan; Cymbals, Francis Brennan; Fife, John Kirk, John Quinn, Jas. Brennan, Frank Frankenstein, Jerome Curran, Patrick Murray, John Frankenstein, Thos. Hoffman and Jos. Frankenstein. The only member now living is John Kirk. The band disbanded in 1894. Its last engagement was on the occasion of the laying of the cornerstone of St. Mary's Catholic School, Minersville.

Nanny's Well

Nanny Colahan in the olden days had a domicile to the south of the present home of Wm. Haskins. There was and is a famous spring on this property which derived its name from her. This spring has been a never failing gusher since the beginning of the settlement and is still functioning. In seasons of drought people from as far away as Beechwood were accustomed to carry their wash to Nanny's well where the folks did their washing. This spring is noted for the purity and coldness of its water.

War Record of Norwegian Twp.

The citizens of Norwegian Twp. were patriotic to the core. Her sons bravely responded to every summons of the national government. They were well represented in the Civil War, the Spanish-American War and the World War. But it was in the conflict between the North and the South that her men especially distinguished themselves. The Brennans, Keatings, Leaheys, McCullions, McDonalds, and Levers had brilliant records for heroism, both in the cavalry and artillery in that conflict.

During the World War all of the following boys of Norwegian saw and withstood the terrible scathing gunfire on the battlefields of France: Nathan Reddington, Mart Kelly, Mich. Kelly, Jos. Kelly, Wm. Keating, John J. Kelly, Wm. Brennan, Jerry Curran, Lawrence Brennan, Chas. Eichenberg, Wm. Mazaikis, Chas. Rosenberger, John Barry, Jos. Parker, Thos. Parker, Jos. Kerns, Mich. Orlosky, Frank Dallago, Alex. Machonis, Jos. Bergan.

The following is an excerpt from an issue of the Williamsport Grit:

"Sergt. Nathan A. Reddington, of Pottsville, a member of Robert B. Woodbury Post No. 67, American Legion has just been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action and meritorious service during the World War. He participated in the Meuse-Argonne offensive, the Montfaucon and Tryon sector defensive, and the Grand Montague offensive, showing extraordinary heroism at Surmeuse from Nov. 3 to 11, 1918. When his commanding officer fell, he took charge of the command under heavy gunfire and led the company against a heavily fortified German machine gun position, capturing nine gunners and three weapons."

MARLIN

(The Marlin History was compiled by Robt. Nauyalis, a teacher in the Norwegian Twp. Schools.)

The village of Marlin is situated on what was formerly known as the Thomas H. Schollenberger farm. This farm consisted of six tracts of land which were purchased by Thos. H. Walker as follows: One tract from Abraham Hart deeded in Nov. 1863; the second tract from J. Claude White in Oct. 1873; another from Geo. B. Stranch, May 1874; and three tracts from T. H. Schollenberger in 1877. Later, Thos. H. Walker sold to Lewis L. Walker, who in turn deeded the six tracts to Lewis B. Walker. Thos. H. Schollenberger purchased for a consideration of \$1.00 from Thos. H. Walker thirty-five acres and 136 perches, originally the property of Harry Rosengarten and John Moser. This was in 1863. Included in this deal in Jan. 1872 were twenty-five acres and forty-eight perches originally the property of Carey and Hart, and four acres and 144 perches originally the property of J. Claude White. Mr. Schollenberger purchased 15 acres and 92 perches from Lewis B. Walker on Jan. 30, 1891. Thos. H. Schollenberger bought 8 acres from the Thos. H. Walker Est. Dec. 30, 1907 for a sum of \$900. Mr. Schollenberger sold some of the farm to Horace B. Bartholomew on Feb. 1, 1899 for a consideration of \$1.00. The H. B. Bartholomew Est. sold to Thos. H. Coombe, May 11, 1912. On Aug. 27, the Coombe Est. deeded this property to the Marlin Land Co. The T. H. Schollenberger Estate deeded some of its property to the Marlin Land Co. on Dec. 27, 1912. The mansion house was sold by the Bartholomew Est. to Mr. Coombe who in turn sold to the Marlin Land Co. The latter company sold this fine dwelling to Bal-

trus Nauyalis and his wife, Petronella, on July 14, 1913. Mr. Nauyalis procured a liquor license for the premises and conducted a first-class hotel up until his death several years ago. This property is still a licensed saloon and is now in the possession of the Nauyalis Est.

The Marlin Land Co. upon acquiring the farm, graded streets and laid out and sold building lots. The village grew rapidly and today is a thriving town quite up-to-date and modern in all respects. In the spring of 1914, the Marlin Land Co. made plans for the construction of a park and summer resort here. A big dancing pavilion was erected, picnic tables were provided for the grove, while in addition it was proposed to construct a big dam several hundred feet in length with a depth of 12 feet at some points. Work on the park was started during the summer of 1914. Final arrangements were made for the opening of the Marlin Park on Saturday, May 29, 1915. The amusement houses were erected and controlled by the Atlantic Amusement Co. During the year 1916 the company in charge decided to spend \$15,000 on improvements to the park. On the brink of the lake, twelve fine bungalows have been erected and, during the summer months, are occupied by the owners.

In 1933, the young men of the village organized a volunteer fire company. This company leased the dancing pavilion and has been staging popular dances during the summer months.

Had Rare Collection

Mr. Schollenberger had a very rare collection of books which was given to the Pottsville Library by his sister, Mrs. Bartholomew. The library included old English sporting books, a German Bible, rare scrap books, books on our early

history, many 18th century memoirs and books numbering many thousands by American, British, French and German authors on every conceivable subject.

His farm had a small lake and groves of fine stand hemlock. Here, also, his collector's instinct had full play. He collected trees and shrubs from all over the world. If the farm had not been sold off in building lots, Schuylkill Co. might have had its own arboretum like those of Boston and Phila. Mr. Schollenberger's collection of china and silverware was given to the National Museum at Valley Forge. His collection of china contained old willow-ware, Apostles ware, mulberry china and German pottery. His silverware included 15th century apostle's spoons, a complete set of master spoons and twelve others bought over 50 years ago. His antique furniture was another collection. Among other articles were Sheraton Sideboards, Chippendale mirrors, empire chairs and many other antiques. This collection was left to his descendants.

The James farm of 32 acres lying to the north of Marlin was owned originally by Jere O'Donnell and Dr. Straub, of Minersville. They purchased it in 1912. It is now abandoned and has come into the possession of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co.

Service In Wars

The following residents of Marlin gave meritorious service during the World War and distinguished themselves on many a battlefield in France: Jos. Madas, Chas. Brobst, Wm. Kaminsky, Andrew Milashauskis, Alex. Machonis, Frank Dallago, Carl Clappier, Arthur Owens, and Mike Orlosky.

Those from Norwegian Twp. who served in the Spanish-American War were: Edw. Keating, Fred Ginsberg, Anthony Schucavage, and Matt Margiawicz.

Additional soldiers who fought in the World War not already mentioned in this history were: Lawrence, James and Jos. Little, Thos. McKeever, John Lazovi, Geo. Yukamavage, Wm. Urban, Leo Balsis.

Marlin Schools

The present frame structure delightfully situated on an eminence overlooking the village from the north was the first school building that Marlin had. This building was completed and ready for occupancy in the fall of the year 1914. The designer and builder, Edw. Motley, equipped the school with cloak-rooms, lockers, toilets and running water. It was built to accommodate 48 pupils. The site was graciously assigned to the school district by the Marlin Land Co. It is now occupied by the pupils of the seventh and eighth grades with Mr. Haskins, instructor. After a lapse of a few years after being built the school was found to be altogether inadequate to house the swelling enrollment, the pupils of the lower grades being obliged to alternate with those of the upper grades in the use of the building, each section occupying the room for one session a day. To alleviate such congestion, the school board decided in the spring of 1919 to lay plans for the construction of a modern three-roomed brick building. Architect Hill of Pottsville was engaged to devise the plans, John Leary being awarded the contract to build. This building was completed, and all details of construction being satisfactory, it was taken over by the board, and dedicated to school purposes Jan. 2, 1920. The building at the time, and even now, represents the acme of school housing. Thos. McKeever, Edw. Curran, Benj. Reddington, Wm. Landers, and George Braskill constituted the Board of Directors at that time. The pupils of the first six grades now hold the

fort generated by P. N. Curran, Miss Margaret Coyle and Miss Esther Hanney.

Bungalows

Adding to the attractiveness of the hamlet are many beautiful bungalows. Judge Bechtel, Conrad Hock, of the Marlin Land Co., Francis Moore, Court Stenographer, Mr. Crawford, D. D. S. of Pottsville, ex-Sheriff John Toole and the Brumm family of Minersville and the Hon. Ralph Bashore of Tremont are some of the owners of those bungalows which front on the lake. To the south, on the old state highway, the Clappier brothers and Harry Geanslen built elaborate bungalows. This was in 1926, since which time they have made permanent homes here. Dr. Clappier is the manager of the Phila. Dental Rooms, Pottsville, his brother, Carl, is a teller in the Union National Bank of Minersville, while Mr. Geanslen, though a retired merchant of Minersville, is still a young man.

The Gluntz and Montag Farms

Divided by the upper road connecting Marlin with Pottsville and extending from York Farm clear into the town are these two farms. The Gluntz farm lies to the south of the highway, that of Montag to the north. Of quite an extensive acreage, these farms are kept in such a high state of cultivation that they look like one large garden. Frank Gluntz, besides truck farming, formerly conducted a model sanitary dairy, but owing to stress of business, he dispensed with the cows some time ago. Christian Montag, one of the most expert farmers in Eastern Penna., is busy "week in, week out, from morn till night" on his various farm projects. Christ's mother, Margaret, bears the unique distinction of being the oldest resident. She has attained the remarkable age of 86 years, and, in full

possession of all her faculties, she still does her "bit" on the farm.

The Lytle Farm

Halfway to Minersville we find the Lytle farm formerly successfully conducted by the late Mr. Facer. Upon his death, the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. obtained possession. Under the management of the pres-

ent lessee, Mr. Collotti, the farm is fairly prosperous.

The Anthony Farm

This farm adjoins that which is generally called the Lytle farm to the east. Mr. Anthony, owner and proprietor, is a representative farmer, in all seasons, good and bad, producing exceptional crops.



History of County Poor District

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* April 10-15, 1935)

By WM. H. POWELL

The present system of caring for the indigent poor of Schuylkill Co. was instituted in 1831 and while there have been changes made in the original Act creating such poor districts the fundamental principles are unchanged. There is nothing on record in the almshouse books to indicate how the indigent were cared for prior to that time but the presumption is that the dire cases of distress were in all probability handled through the office of the County Commissioners until the task became so great as to indicate the need for a separate organization or department to do the work.

So it was that in 1831 a four-story brick building was built at the present site to accommodate approximately 150 patients, including the insane as well as the homeless poor. This building stands today. It is the one closest to the state highway. The lower floor was used for the insane patients and the upper floors for the administration officials and offices and for the patients. The first poor board was organized at Orwigsburg and the first meeting of the board was held at Friedensburg.

On the property at the time of the purchase was an old log building at one time used as a tavern. This was for a time used as the main office of the almshouse and later weatherboarded and again rented as a tavern. This building is also standing, it being the frame dwelling along the state highway at the entrance to the almshouse.

In 1868, another four-story brick building was built and this was used chiefly for the care of the insane. This building is still in use but has, during the past several years, been gradually remodeled and modernized inside as far as the original structure permits changes. Some years later, a third four-story building was erected which was used as a hospital and for the care of the aged and those not able to get around.

In 1896, work was started on the construction of a building to be used exclusively as a hospital and equipped for that purpose and for some years stood as an indication of the advanced care of the poor which Schuylkill Co. provided. At this time, a boiler plant and a laundry were also built.

The first barn constructed was nearer the almshouse buildings than the present one. It served its purpose until 1875 when it was destroyed by fire. A large new barn was then built on the present site. This was burned down in 1932 by an incendiary who was tried and convicted. A modern fire proof building has since been erected in its place, fire proof as far as it is possible to make a building of that nature.

In 1914, the present insane asylum was built on the hill back of the almshouse buildings and it was removed entirely from the management of the poor board and has since been administered as a separate institution by a board of trustees appointed by the court. About

Joseph H. Zerbey History, Pottsville and Schuylkill County, Penna.

150 patients were kept by the county in the insane wards prior to the erection of the asylum and the others were sent to some of the state institutions. With the erection of a modern institution to take care of these mental cases all were brought here from the various state institutions where they are now comfortably housed and well cared for.

During the past seven years, a great change has been made in the almshouse property and its management. The farm has been made a profitable unit which really maintains the population of about 500 patients. Patients are assigned to farm and other work in accordance with their physical ability to work and thus they are kept in good condition. The hospital has been thoroughly modernized and ranks equally with the best hospitals in the state. The buildings have all been renovated, some of them until they can scarcely be recognized. New equipment has been installed. Everything about the plant has been modernized and the work is still going on with the prospect of eventually, at virtually no cost to the county, transforming these century old buildings into modern homes for the county's unfortunates.

A new \$82,000 addition was built to the hospital a year ago as a home for the female patients. It was a wonderful investment in every way and no institution of any kind in the states provides a more comfortably and more finely appointed home than is provided for the women who are patients at this county institution. At the present time, work is in progress on the construction of a \$50,000 addition to the hospital which will be used as a woman's ward and which will be in direct communication with the

women's department for those in good health.

Continued development in the next seven years such as has marked the past period of that length will see the finest almshouse institution in all of Penna. and with no tax increase levied to bring it about and no debt incurred upon the county.

This new order of things started under the administration of the late Frank C. Reese, of Pottsville; Fred C. Holman, of Mahanoy City; Joseph McKeon, of Pottsville, and Charles Miller, of Pottsville, who was appointed to succeed to the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Reese.

Besides the care of the indigent and homeless poor at this county institution the poor board has charge of outdoor relief work, assisting those in their homes who are without earning capacity but who are best to be cared for in their homes with a little public assistance given in the way of store orders for food while they strive in various ways to solve their own problems of eking out a living until their fortunes change. Many families have subsisted in this way where the family has been left without a bread earner until such time as the children have grown old enough to help maintain their own home and eventually pass off the rolls of the county relief. At the present time about 1500 are being assisted in this way. This is a large amount, as during normal times before the depression of 1929 and which is still with us, less than 500 sought aid of this kind.

The story of the various boards and, in brief, the development of the county almshouse has been compiled from the records of the minutes, of the former boards. All the

records were found intact and stored away and are now made a living part of the almshouse property and records, instead of being consigned to dusty storage rooms.

No public body has ever received the commendation and praise that has come to the poor board of Schuylkill Co. during the past seven years. Their work has been an inspiration to others all through the state and demonstrates to other officialdom of the county the possibilities of public officials.

The Schuylkill County Poor District was incorporated April 4, 1831, and the Governor appointed the following Directors of the Poor: Jos. C. Offerman, Michael Graeff, Samuel R. Kepner, John Barr, John Hughes, Simon Marbarger, Wm. Griefff.

They were to meet on or before the first day of September, 1831, to determine upon the purchase of a site on which to build a building for the care of the poor.

The present almshouse site was selected and was purchased for \$6,000 from Charles Shoemaker and heirs and consisted of 226 acres and 23 perches with all buildings and stables. This deed was recorded April 9, 1832.

During the latter part of the year, three Directors of the Poor were elected. Voters were entitled to vote for members of the Legislature and for the Directors of the Poor.

The following were successful: John C. Offerman, three years; Henry Shoemaker, two years; John Snyder, one year.

Their salary was fixed at \$20 per year, and \$1.50 for each day of service.

The Directors decided by drawing lots, who would serve the three, two and one year terms. The witnesses

to the drawings were: Benj. Becker and Jack Thomas. The drawing took place at the Orwigsburg Court House Dec. 20, 1831, at which time they took the oath of office.

December 1831, specifications for a building were drawn. Building was to be 46x90 feet and to contain space enough to house all indigent poor, insane, also quarters for employees.

First Meeting In 1832

For the year 1832, Directors of the Poor were: John C. Offerman, Henry Shoemaker, and John Snyder.

The first meeting of record was held May 7, 1832, at the home of John Snyder at Friedensburg. The full Board was present.

May 26, 1832, bids were asked for the making of 450,000 bricks, to be made from the farm recently purchased by the Schuylkill County Poor District, formerly called the half-way house.

Steel Wood was awarded the contract for bricks, same to be made according to sample, Dec. 29, 1832.

Abraham Seltzer appeared as new Director, taking the place of John Snyder.

Meeting was held at Almshouse Farm. Plastering was awarded to Peter Grim, 3 coats at 20c per square yard.

Outdoor Physicians Began 1833

1833 Directors of the Poor were: John C. Offerman, Henry Shoemaker and Abraham Seltzer.

At a meeting held Jan. 3, 1833, in C. Loeser, Esq., office, Orwigsburg, Benj. Baker was elected Steward, at a salary of \$300 per year. Other business included purchase of 40 single beds, from Isaac Thompson at \$2.50 each.

Contract to lay brick and stone for the new building was awarded

to Amos Forton and John McBorren and William Bowen, at \$2.00 per 1,000 and stone 55c per perch.

Tin roof was awarded to Biyon Phillips.

Purchase of 488 ft. lead pipe was made to run water from spring to new building.

Henry Edge and Wm. Wife were awarded the contract for digging cellar at 20c a cubic yard.

April 6, 1833, the first outdoor physicians were appointed. They were as follows: Joseph E. Sorber, I. R. Bonsell, Geo. Halberstadt, and Benj. Becker.

Each director was assigned a certain district, and not to pay more than \$1 per week for each family for outdoor relief.

George Reber appeared as director in place of Henry Shoemaker.

New Building Opened In 1834

1834 Directors of the Poor were: John C. Offerman, Abraham Seltzer, George Reber and Benj. Baker. Steward.

The present building at entrance to almshouse was leased to Chas. F. Main, for a period of three years at \$204 per year, and was allowed to have a liquor license.

The new building was opened with about 20 patients.

The food was ordered for the patients by the Directors of the Poor and was as follows:

Breakfast between 8:00 and 9:00 o'clock in the morning, and supper time between 4:00 and 5:00 o'clock in the evening, to give them meat and vegetables 3 times a week, rye and coffee every morning, mush and molasses 3 times a week, and on Sunday evening, they were to have tea, fish and bread.

Drs. Benj. Becker and George Halberstadt were appointed for Home and to attend to the poor for a radius of 12 miles. Halberstadt's

salary was to be \$250 per year, Becker's salary, \$225 per year.

Purchased Farm In 1835

1835 Directors of the Poor were: Abraham Seltzer, Geo. Reber and Geo. Pott.

The salary of the steward, Henry Stager, was now \$275 per year. There were six applications each placed with the applicant, and the salary desired and Henry Stager was low. Elijah Hammer, Secretary, was given a salary of \$40 per year, and John Patterson, Asst. Steward, \$84 per year.

Physician Isaac F. Freechler, M. D., received a salary of \$65 per year to take care of poor within 12 circular miles from place of residence.

The Board of Directors purchased from Benj. Pott, 42 acres, 67 perches, adjoining poor farm for a considerable amount of \$1,000. This property was part of the Estate of John Kantner.

1836 Transactions

1836 Directors of the Poor included: George Reber, Wm. Matz, and Wm. Greiff.

Sam'l Huntzinger was Steward at a salary of \$400 per year and Elijah Hammer, Clerk and Treasurer, at a salary of \$80 per year.

First Fire Insurance In 1837

1837 Directors of the Poor were: Wm. Matz, Wm. Greiff, and Samuel Kepner.

Samuel Huntzinger, Steward and Treasurer, salary \$580 per year; Elijah Hammer, Treasurer, salary \$20 per year; George Halberstadt, Out-door Physician, salary \$112 per year.

First fire insurance was placed, \$7,000 on property, and \$3,000 on furniture.

First survey ordered with work being done by John Drehr.

Physician Samuel R. Medler, M. D., was appointed at a salary of \$70 per year.

Leased Tavern and Stables In 1838

1838 Directors of the Poor were: Wm. Greiff, Samuel Kepner, and Daniel Kerschner.

Steward and Clerk, Samuel Huntzinger received a salary of \$600 per year; Physician, Samuel R. Medler, \$70 per year, and Out-door Physician, Geo. Halberstadt, \$112.50 per year.

Tavern and stables were leased to George Kauffman, rent \$100 per year.

Elijah Hammer, Treasurer's salary \$20 per year.

Jacob Rensheimer was awarded the contract to take out stumps on farm at 12½c each.

First removal order was taken out for Aaron Burke, of Williams Twp., Northampton Co., evidence heard at office of Chas. Witman, Orwigsburg.

The Directors of the Poor were elected to office in October and took office November of same year.

Directors From 1839 to 1845

The 1839 Directors of the Poor were: Samuel R. Kepner, Daniel B. Kerschner, and Daniel Bartlett.

Steward, Isaac Moser, received a salary of \$300 per year; Clerk, Chas. Focht, \$250 per year; Treasurer, Elijah Hammer, \$20 per year. Solicitor was John Barmon and Physician, Samuel Medler, M. D.

The 1840 Directors of the Poor were: Daniel Kerschner, Daniel Bartlett, and Geo. Bodey; Physician, Dr. S. R. Medler, salary, \$80 per year; Treasurer, Elijah Hammer, \$25 per year; Clerk, Chas. Focht, \$275 per year; Steward, Wm. Greiff, \$400 per year.

1841 Directors of the Poor were: Daniel Bartlett, Geo. Bodey, and Wm. Bock.

Physician, Dr. Samuel Medler, salary, \$80 per year; steward, Wm. Greiff, \$400 per year; clerk, Chas. Focht, \$275 per year; treasurer, Elijah Hammer, \$25 per year.

1842—Directors of the Poor were: Geo. Body, Wm. Beck and Geo. Deibert.

Steward, Wm. Greiff, salary, \$400 per year; doctor, S. R. Medler, \$80 per year; treasurer, Elijah Hammer, \$25 per year; solicitor, John Barmon, \$20 per year; clerk, Chas. Focht, \$275 per year.

1843—Directors of the Poor were: Wm. Bock, Geo. Deibert, John Kimmell.

Steward, Wm. Greiff, salary \$400 per year; physician, John C. Heckler, \$75 per year; treasurer, Elijah Hammer, \$25 per year; solicitor, John Barmon, \$25 per year; clerk, Henry Krebs, \$275 per year.

1844—Directors of the Poor were: Geo. Deibert, John Kimmel and Michael Freihafer.

Steward, Wm. Greiff, salary \$400 per year; physician, John C. Heckler, \$75 per year; treasurer, Elijah Hammer, \$25 per year; solicitor, John Barmon, \$25 per year; clerk, Henry Krebs, \$275 per year.

Hired Nursery Attendant in 1845

1845—Directors of the Poor were: John Kimmel, Michael Freihafer and Samuel Boyer.

Steward, Wm. Greiff, salary, \$300 per year; physician, John G. Kocher, \$50 per year; clerk, Wm. Dalburis, \$175 per year; treasurer, Chas. Huntzinger, \$20 per year; solicitor, John Barmon, \$25 per year; 1st shoemaker, Daniel Dreher, 40c a pair to make shoes; farm help was hired during year, \$10 per year.

Looerina Shoemaker, Nursery attendant, was hired at 25c per day, she to furnish her own clothing.

Appropriation for year was \$6,000.

Leased Property of Inmates in 1846

1846—Directors of the Poor were: Michael Freihafer, Samuel Boyer and Peter Bressler.

The steward was Wm. Greiff; clerk, Wm. I. Dalburis; physician, John G. Kocher; treasurer, Charles Huntzinger and solicitor, John Barmon. Geo. Halberstadt, out-door physician.

During this period if any inmate owned property, the Directors of the Poor leased it and collected revenue for his maintenance.

The tavern and barns were leased to Jeremiah Hughes at \$140 per year.

The appropriation for the year was \$5,500.

The Board of Directors notified the steward to prosecute all persons who may be found fishing, hunting or shooting on the county property, and offered a reward of \$3 for information leading to their conviction.

Added A Building In 1847

1847—Directors of the Poor were: Samuel Boyer, Peter Bressler and Henry Hoy.

Steward was Wm. Greiff, salary \$300; clerk, Wm. Dalburis, \$175; physician, John G. Kochler, \$50; out-door physician, George Halberstadt, \$100 and treasurer, Charles Huntzinger, \$20 compensation.

Tavern leased to Mrs. Susannah Moyer, \$140 per year.

During the year, the Directors decided to build a hog pen, 20x60x12 feet high, lower part to be used for hogs and top to be used for chickens.

Appropriation was \$5,500 in 1848.

1848—Directors of the Poor were: Peter Bressler, William Koch and Henry Hoy.

The steward was Wm. Greiff, salary \$375 per year; clerk, Wm. Dalburis, \$200 per year; treas., Charles Huntzinger, no pay; physician, J. G.

Kochler, \$75 per year; solicitor, John Barmon, \$25 per year; out-door physician, George Halberstadt, \$100 per year and asst. steward, John G. Deiger, \$175 per year.

Appropriation for the year was \$5,500.

Vote For New Building In 1894

1849—Directors of the Poor were: Wm. Koch, pres.; Henry Hoy and Geo. Dreibelbeis.

The steward was Jacob Saylor, salary \$275 per year; clerk, William Dalburis, \$200 per year; treas., Jas. B. Levan, no pay; solicitor, John Barmon, \$25 per year; physician, Samuel H. Shannon, \$75 per year; out-door physician, Geo. Halberstadt, \$100 per year; farm superintendent, Amos Heigenbuch, \$275 per year.

Tavern and barns were leased to Mrs. Susannah Moyer for \$140 per year.

Appropriation For Year Was \$6,000

During the year a petition was sent to legislator to exempt the Poor District from road tax.

July 2, 1849, first threshing machine was purchased from Aaron Raw of Hamburg for the sum of \$70 and returned as worthless. A new machine was purchased from Aaron Raw for \$100. This was a four-horse-power machine and proved satisfactory.

During the year the Board decided to build a brick building, 32x42, two stories, 1st floor to be used as a kitchen, 2nd floor as nursery for children. (Note—This is part of present main building).

Abraham Aiter was hired as bricklayer at \$1.25 per day and board. Henry Miller was hired as carpenter at \$1 per day and board.

Brick was purchased at \$5 per 1000, W. P. flooring was purchased at \$20 per 1000.

Price of wheat flour was \$5.50 per bbl.

The Directors salary was \$38 per year and extra services, \$38 per year.

Increased Appropriation In 1850

1850—Directors of the Poor were: Wm. Koch, pres.; Geo. Dreibelbeis and J. W. Kepner.

Steward, Jacob Saylor, salary \$300 per year; clerk, Daniel Focht, \$240 per year; out-door physician, George Halberstadt, \$100 per year; solicitor, James Barmon, \$25 per year; treasurer, James B. Levan, no pay.

Appropriation for year was \$6500.

The admission of patients was changed so it became necessary for all applications to be signed by two (2) justices of the peace.

\$9,000 Appropriation In 1851

1851 Directors were: Geo. Dreibelbeis, J. W. Kepner, and Paul Lengle; Steward, Jonathan Heiser, salary \$300 per year; Clerk, Daniel Focht, \$240 per year; Solicitor, John Brannon, \$25 per year; Physician, S. H. Shannon, \$100 per year; Outdoor Physician, Geo. Halberstadt, \$100 per year.

Appropriation for year \$9,000.

Tavern leased to Susannah Moyer, for \$100 per year; potatoes were purchased for 75c per bu.; wheat was sold for \$1.02½ per bu.

Expenses Exceed Appropriation

1852 Directors were: John W. Kepner, Pres., Paul Lengle, and Wm. D. Kershner; Steward, Jacob Heisler, salary \$300 per year; Clerk, Ed. Lavengood, \$240; Solicitor, John Brannon, \$25; Physician, S. H. Shannon, \$100; Outdoor Physician, Geo. Halberstadt, \$100.

Appropriation for year \$9,700; amount spent for year, \$11,920.36.

Director Died In 1853

1853 Directors were: Paul Lengle, Pres., W. Kershner, John Reichard, and Wm. Frailey; Steward, Jona-

than Heisler, salary, \$300 per year; Clerk, Edw. Lavengood, \$240; Solicitor, John Brannon, \$25; Physicians, S. H. and B. F. Shannon, \$100; Outdoor Physician, S. L. Berlucky, \$100.

John Reichard, Director, died and Wm. Frailey was appointed by the Commissioners.

Amount spent for year \$12,259.03.

Spent \$15,625 In 1854

1854 Directors were: Wm. B. Kershner, Chas. Schappel, and John Schwalm; Steward, Chas. Mullin, salary, \$400 per year; Clerk, Edw. Lavengood, \$300; Solicitor, R. M. Palmer, \$25; Physicians, S. H. and B. F. Shannon, \$100; Outdoor Physician, S. L. Berlucky, \$100.

Amount spent, \$15,625.56.

Expenses Increased In 1855

1855 Directors were: Chas. Schappel, Pres., John Schwalm, and Franklin Webber; Steward, Chas. Mullin, salary, \$400; Clerk, Edw. Lavengood, \$300; Solicitor, Robert M. Palmer, \$25; Physicians, S. H. and B. F. Shannon, \$182.33; Outdoor Physician, S. L. Berlucky, \$100.

Amount spent for year, \$18,538.48.

Indentured Girls Got Six Chairs

1856 Directors were: William Schwalm, Franklin Webber, and Henry Deiffenderfer; Steward, Chas. Mullin, salary, \$500 per year; Clerk, G. M. Kershner, \$325; Physician, B. F. Shannon, \$204; Outdoor Physician, S. L. Berlucky, \$116; Solicitor, G. H. Clay, \$42.

Amount spent for year, \$20,039.10.

It seems that up to this time when girls were indentured, the contracting parties entered into an agreement with the Poor Board that when the girls reached the age of 18 years, the indenture expired, and the girls were to receive 3 kitchen chairs. A motion was passed in this year which compelled the

party that indentured the girl to give her 6 kitchen chairs.

Patients Locked In Cells In 1857

1857 Directors were: Franklin Webber, Henry Deiffenderfer, and Amos Hoffman; Steward, John Schwalm, salary, \$600 per year; Clerk, J. W. Kerschner, \$400; Physicians, S. H. and B. F. Shannon, \$215; Outdoor Physician, S. L. Berlucky, \$120; Solicitor, Geo. H. Clay, \$50.

Patients were locked up in Insane Cells for three months for F. B. or Paupers.

Amount spent for year, \$24,347.85.

Justices Administered Relief In 1858

1858 Directors were: Henry Deiffenderfer, Amos Hoffman, and Nathan Butz; Steward, John Schwalm, salary, \$600 per year; Clerk, Edw. Lavengood, \$400; Physicians, S. H. and B. F. Shannon, \$315; Solicitor, Geo. H. Clay, \$50; Outdoor Physician, S. L. Berlucky, \$130.

Amount spent for year, \$23,320.93.

During the year outdoor relief money was donated to the towns in bulk. The justice of the peace in each town issued the orders.

Infirmery No. 2 was built for sick purposes. \$5,000 was asked for this purpose.

Directors In 1859

1859 Directors were: Amos Hoffman, Nathan H. Butz, and Chas. Focht.

There were no other records for this year.

Directors Resumed Relief Work 1860

Owing to an Act of Assembly passed, no appointment could be made legally without a majority of the Court and the Directors of the Poor present at this meeting held in Pottsville. The President Judge presided at the meeting.

1860 Directors were: Nathan H. Butz, Chas. Focht, and Dr. A.

Shultz; Steward, Edw. Lavengood, salary, \$600 per year; Physician and Clerk, D. W. Bland, \$400; Outdoor Physician, S. L. Berlucky, \$120; Solicitor, Geo. W. Clay, \$50; Consulting Physician, I. G. Koehler, \$215; Farmer, Jeremiah Yeager, \$400.

First shoes were purchased in Phila.; heretofore all shoes had been made at the institution.

A special motion read as follows:

"Mr. Klesh be retained as tailor and no reduction be made in his unparalleled generous wage of 25c per day.

"The rule that the justice give orders for relief is dispensed and directors will as before grant the orders themselves."

Grand Jury recommended the poor district purchase water rights for dam and water supply.

Amount spent for year, \$18,657.12.

Purchased Rights To Dam

1861 Directors were: Chas. Focht, Dr. A. Shultz, and Wm. Lerch; Steward, Michael Seltzer, salary, \$600 per year; Clerk, Dr. D. W. Bland, \$400; Physician, I. G. Koehler, \$215; Outdoor Physician, Dr. S. L. Berlucky, \$120; Solicitor, Geo. H. Clay, \$50.

Dr. D. W. Bland resigned as physician and clerk, to enter the service of the Army as surgeon general.

Dr. F. J. Kern was appointed clerk and physician at a salary of \$500 per year.

Amount spent for year, \$19,532.01.

Directors of the Poor purchased from John Shannon, water rights privilege to build a dam for the sum of \$400.

"Note"—This site of 23 acres has recently been purchased for \$3,000.

Water dam and piping to almshouse completed at a cost of \$10,611.06.

No Coffee For Stewards In 1862

1862 Directors were: Dr. Augustus Shultz, Wm. Lerch, and R. C. Wilson; Steward, Michael Seltzer, salary, \$600 per year; Clerk and Physician, F. J. Kern, \$400; Physician, I. G. Koehler, \$215; Outdoor Physician, Dr. S. L. Berlucky, \$120; Solicitor, Geo. H. Clay, \$50.

Motion was passed prohibiting the use of coffee on the steward's table.

Amount spent for year, \$20,500.

Average number of patients, 295.

Appealed From Viewers' Damages

1863 Directors were: Wm. Lerch, R. C. Wilson, and Edw. Lavengood; Steward, Michael Seltzer, salary, \$600 per year; Clerk and Physician, F. J. Kern, \$500; Physician, B. F. Shannon, \$125; Outdoor Physician, S. L. Berlucky, Pottsville, \$170; Outdoor Physician, J. H. Yocum, Ashland, \$75; Solicitor, Geo. W. Clay, \$50.

Suit was entered to appeal from the viewers decision on settlement of land damages against the Sch. Haven and Lehigh Railroad.

F. J. Kern resigned and Dr. O. L. Saylor was appointed clerk. Dec. 21, 1863 first sewing machine was purchased.

Patient average, 284; amount spent, \$27,572.82.

345 Average Patients In 1864

1864 Directors were: R. C. Wilson, Edw. Lavengood, and Abraham Bressler; Steward, Michael Seltzer, salary, \$600 per year; Clerk, O. L. Saylor, \$250; Physician, B. F. Shannon, \$350; Outdoor Physician, Dr. Lawrence, Ashland, \$125; Outdoor Physician, Dr. Provast, Tremont, \$75.

Amount spent during year, \$52,370.28; patient average, 345.

\$88,708 To Maintain Poor In 1865

1865 Directors of the Poor: Edward Lavengood, R. C. Wilson, and

Abraham Bressler; Steward, Michael Seltzer, salary, \$1,000 per year; Clerk and Physician, O. S. Saylor, \$400; Physician, Dr. B. F. Shannon, \$500; Outdoor Physician, Dr. Lawrence, Ashland, \$75; Outdoor Physician, Dr. Provast, \$75; Solicitor, F. B. Gowen.

Amount spent for year \$88,708.81; patient average, 364.

Sold Piece of Ground In 1866

1866 Directors were: Abraham Bressler, R. C. Wilson, and Isaac Orwig, Jr.; Steward, Michael Seltzer, salary, \$1,000 per year; Clerk and Physician, O. S. Saylor, M. D., \$500; Physician, B. F. Shannon, \$500.

A piece of ground about 3½ acres sold at public auction May 8 to Jas. Kirkpatrick.

Amount spent for the year, \$75,908.57; patient average, 422.

Same Colored Clothing For All

1867 Directors were: R. C. Wilson, Isaac Orwig, Jr., and B. F. Hughes; Steward, Michael Seltzer, salary, \$1,000 per year; Clerk and Physician, Dr. O. S. Saylor, \$700; Physician, Dr. B. F. Shannon, \$500.

The Board went on record that all patients shall be dressed in the same colored clothing.

Amount spent for year, \$74,701.39; patient average, 385.

Building For Insane In 1868

1868 Directors were: Isaac Orwig, Jr., B. F. Hughes, and W. Fehr; Steward, Daniel Boyer, salary, \$1000 per year; Clerk and Physician, Dr. O. S. Saylor, \$700; Physician, B. F. Shannon, \$500.

During the year, the insane building was built.

Note: This building is now occupied by 191 men called Infirmary No. 1.

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Amount spent for year, \$50,674.67;
patient average, 375.

From 1869 to 1871

1869 Directors were: B. F. Hughes, W. Fehr, and F. Beck; Steward, Daniel Boyer, salary, \$1,000 per year; Physician, B. F. Shannon, \$500; Clerk, Dr. O. S. Saylor, \$600; Outdoor Physician, Dr. P. Weber, \$150; Outdoor Physician, Dr. P. G. Fergas, \$100.

Amount spent for year, \$37,345.41;
patient average, 338.

1870 Directors were: W. Fehr, Fred Beck, and Francis McGurk; Steward, Daniel Boyer, salary, \$1,000; Physician, B. F. Shannon, \$700; Clerk, O. S. Saylor, \$600; Solicitor, Myer Strouse, \$200.

Amount spent for year, \$37,580.31;
patient average, 338.

1871 Directors were: Fred Beck, Francis McGurk, and Jas. Huber; Steward, Daniel Boyer, salary, \$1,100 per year; Clerk, O. S. Saylor, \$600; Physician, B. F. Shannon, \$700; Solicitor, Myer Strouse, \$200.

Amount spent for year, \$49,197.98;
patient average, 315.

Changed Clerks During 1872

1872 Directors were: Francis McGurk, Jacob Huber and Wm. Neifert.

Steward, Fred Beck, salary \$1100 per year; Clerk, O. S. Saylor, \$600; Physician, B. F. Shannon, \$700; Solicitor, Myer Strouse, \$200; New Clerk, Edw. Huntzinger, appointed Sept. 1, 1872.

Amount spent for year, \$41,364.19.
Patient average, 313.

321 Average Patients in 1873

1873 Directors were: Jacob Huber, Wm. Neifert and B. F. Ketner.

Steward, Fred Beck, salary, \$1,100 per year; Physician, B. F. Shannon, \$700; Clerk, Edw. Huntzinger, \$600; and Solicitor, Myer Strouse, \$200.

Amount spent for year, \$41,957.84.
Patient average, 321.

Barn Burned in 1874

1874 Directors were: Wm. Neifert, B. F. Ketner and W. A. Stutzman. Steward, Fred Beck, salary, \$1,100 per year; Physician, B. F. Shannon, \$700; Clerk, Edw. Huntzinger, \$600; Solicitor, Myer Strouse, \$200.

Amount spent for year, \$45,088.70.
Patients average, 376.

July 6, 1874, at 8:00 p. m., fire destroyed the barn and contents. One cow was burned. Barn and contents were insured for \$3,000.

Built New Barn in 1875

1875 Directors were: B. F. Ketner, W. A. Stutzman and L. Mangan.

Steward, Fred Beck, salary \$1,100; Physician, B. F. Shannon, \$700; Clerk, Edw. Huntzinger, \$600; Solicitor, F. W. Bechtel, \$200.

Amount spent for year, \$52,443.38.
Patients average, 439.

During this year, a new barn was built, which was later destroyed by fire Sept. 9, 1931.

Attended First Convention in 1876

1876 Directors were: W. A. Stutzman, L. Mangan and John Frehofer.

Steward, Fred Beck, salary, \$1,100 per year; Physician, B. F. Shannon, \$700; Clerk, Edw. Huntzinger, \$600; Solicitor, A. W. Schalck, \$200.

Amount spent for year, \$57,935.86.
Patients average was 474.

Directors of the Poor attended first State Convention for Directors of the Poor, held at Altoona, Pa.

Improvements to the old insane building on account of crowded condition.

Regular Meeting Day in 1877

1877 Directors were: L. Mangan, John Frehofer and Henry Schropp.

Steward, Fred Beck, salary, \$1,100 per year; Physician, B. F.

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Shannon, \$700; Asst. Physician and Clerk, Edw. Huntzinger, \$600; Solicitor, A. W. Schalck, \$200.

Amount spent for year, \$76,629.10. Average patients, 594.

The Board decided to hold its meetings regularly every Monday.

Dr. B. F. Shannon resigned, owing to ill health, and Dr. Oliver P. Piper was appointed physician.

Bought Wine for Patients in 1878

1878 Directors were: John Frehofer, Henry Schropp and Jas. Kellagher.

Steward, Fred Beck, salary, \$1,100; Clerk, Benj. Stauffer, \$600; Physician, Daniel Dechert, \$700; Solicitor, Anth. Campbell, \$200.

Amount spent for year, \$83,231.54. Patients average, 639.

The doctor was instructed to purchase wine for patients.

Price paid for mdse.: Flour, \$6.34 per bbl.; Egg Coal, \$2.71; Broken Coal, \$2.46; Stove Coal, \$2.85 per ton.

No Relief for Able-Bodied Men

The 1879 Directors were: Henry Schropp, Jas. Kellagher and Jas. Grant.

Steward, Fred Beck; Clerk, Benj. Stauffer; Physician, Daniel Dechert, and Solicitor, Anth. Campbell.

Grand Jury visited Almshouse and reported everything satisfactory, with the exception of Outdoor Relief. Said same was too large.

Anth. Campbell resigned as Solicitor caused by his leaving county. P. M. Dunn was appointed in his place.

All able-bodied men were taken off relief. If necessary to put them back on they had to come to Almshouse to work on farm.

Grand Jury adverse to county carrying insurance. They felt that the county should take care of own risks.

Amount spent per year, \$88,176.95. Patient average, 628.

Appointed Teacher for Children

1880 Directors were: Jas. Kellagher, Jas. Grant and Geo. Kauffman.

Steward, Fred Beck; Physician, Daniel Dechert; Clerk, Benj. Stauffer.

Grand Jury recommended stone house be repaired and converted into home for children, and a competent teacher employed, short time. Later, Jas. Kellagher was appointed teacher.

New Fairbanks five-ton scale cost \$150.

Amount spent for year, \$86,004.85. Patient average, 532.

Visitors Charged for Meals

1881 Directors were: Jas. Grant, Geo. Kauffman and John Morgan.

Steward, Rus. P. Davis; Physician, Dr. Burch; Clerk, Jas. J. McVugh.

Board passed resolution that all persons visiting Almshouse shall pay 50c per meal, and 25c for each horse.

During the year, first telephone was placed in office.

Cut Down on Serving Meals

1882 Directors were: Geo. Hoffman, John Morgan and Wm. Neifert.

Steward, Fred Beck; Physician, Dr. (Vacant); Clerk, Samuel R. Russell.

Board recommended new barn in place of small red barn.

Board instructed steward to furnish no meals to persons bringing inmates to Almshouse.

Send Children to Home

1883 Directors were: John Morgan, Wm. Neifert and Thos. McGrath.

Steward, Fred Beck; Clerk, Jacob Morgan; Physician, A. Piper, M. D.; Solicitor, Jas. Grady.

Board instructed steward that no employes be allowed to keep cows. Board made resolution that no

whiskey or cigars be purchased at county expense.

All children over two years of age were to be transferred to the Pottsville Children's Home.

Employed Resident Physician

1884 Directors were: Wm. Neifert, Thos. McGrath and Daniel Reichert.

Steward, Fred Beck, salary, \$1,200; Clerk, C. A. Moyer, \$600; Physician, Daniel Dechert, \$800; Solicitor, W. F. Shepherd, \$200.

Price of coal, \$2.85; flour, \$4.40 per bbl.

Mr. Birmingham and committee from Girardville, appealed to the Board for help on account of small-pox.

By an Act of Legislature, the Insane Dept. was required to have a license which designated the number of patients allowed in building, also required the employment of a resident physician. Dr. Edw. Huntzinger was appointed to the position.

House was built to take care of small-pox cases, as same was spreading in institution.

Motion made that all Almshouse teams going through the toll at Mt. Carbon, be recorded in office.

Fire escapes were placed on Insane building.

From Year 1885 to 1893

1885 Directors were: Thos. McGrath, Daniel Reichert and Martin Dormer.

Steward, Fred C. Beck, salary, \$1,100; Clerk, C. A. Moyer, \$600; Physician, O. P. Piper, \$800; Insane Physician, Edw. Huntzinger, \$600; Solicitor, W. F. Shepherd, \$200.

1886 Directors were: Daniel Reichert, Martin Dormer and W. W. Brown.

Steward, Fred Beck, salary, \$1,200; Clerk, C. A. Moyer, \$600; Physician, O. P. Piper, \$800; Insane Physician, Edw. Huntzinger, \$600; Solicitor, W. F. Shepherd, \$200.

Price of coal, \$2.80; flour, \$4.63.

Dec. 20, 1886, purchased from H. A. Zimmerman, a tract of land along Pike, also a tract of uncultivated land for the sum of \$700.

There is no record of the following years: 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1892 and 1893.

Steam Heat and Lights Proposed

1894—Directors were: Robert Ebling, Wm. Derr and Jacob Day; steward, Wellington Hartman; physician, P. H. O'Hara; clerk, John J. O'Connor; solicitor, Watson F. Shepherd.

During the year, clothing and shoes were discontinued to out-door relief subjects.

Resolution passed by Board charging all visitors 30c for meals.

Steam heat and electric lights proposed for Main Bldg.

Asked Improvements in 1895

1895—Directors were: William Derr, Jacob Day and Neri Deitrich; steward, Wellington Hartman, clerk, John F. Gressang; physician, W. J. Whitehouse; solicitor, John M. Gray, M. D.

The Board requested the County Commissioners for the following improvements: light plant, boiler plant, chapel.

Later the Directors appealed to court for the above improvements with the addition of laundry and hospital building.

Employees Uniformed in 1896

1896—Directors were: Jacob Day, Neri Deitrich and S. G. Middleton; steward, J. W. Reese; physician, John M. Gray; clerk, John F. Gressang and solicitor, Chas. E. Breckons.

All employes were attired in uniforms of the same make, same to be paid for by the county.

New Hospital in Service in 1897

1897—Directors were: Neri Deitrich, S. G. Middleton and Fred

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Ahrensfield; steward, Gordon Reed; physician, G. H. Moore; clerk, John F. Gressang; solicitor, S. B. Edwards.

Sept. 27, 1897, new hospital, boiler plant, electric light plant, was accepted and put in service, December 21, 1897.

Miss Pickering was appointed chief nurse.

First Student Nurses in 1898

1898—Directors were: S. G. Middleton, Fred Ahrensfield and Jonathan W. Walburn; steward, Clay Evans; physician, G. H. Moore; clerk, J. F. Gressang; solicitor, S. B. Edwards.

First student nurses for new hospital, Jennie Hardley, Mary D. O'Neil, Katie G. Weldon, Sadie Lingham, Emma S. Richards.

Schuylkill Co. Medical Association held its regular meeting in the new hospital April 1898.

Miss Pickering resigned as chief nurse to go to her home in Australia.

1899 Directors

1899—Directors were: Jonathan Walburn, Fred Ahrensfield and John F. Horgan; steward, M. S. Fegley; physician, Jas. Monaghan, M. D.; clerk, Dan. I. Freiler; solicitor, W. F. Shepherd; chief nurse, Jane Parry, Bangor, Pa.

Appoint Graduate Nurses

1900—Directors were: Jonathan Walburn, John F. Horgan and Mr. Becker; steward, M. S. Fegley; physician, Jas. F. Monaghan, M. D.; clerk, Daniel A. Freiler; solicitor, Watson F. Shepherd; chief nurse, Miss Eleanore Creary.

All appointments made Jan. 1st, declared void at meeting of Jan. 8, and new appointments made this date.

Owing to scarcity of student nurses, two graduate nurses were appointed at \$20 per month.

Smallpox Camp In 1901

1901 Directors were: John Horgan, Mr. Becker, and Mr. Kester; Steward, A. B. Lamb; Clerk, Annie Mellett; Physician, Jas. F. Monaghan, M. D.; Solicitor, W. F. Shepherd; Chief Nurse, Eleanore Creary; Asst. Chief Nurse, Bessie Hollenbach; Student Nurses, Katie Weldon, Katie Richards, H. A. Corbey.

April 29, Directors Becker and Kester made the following changes: Chief Clerk, Dr. Sallada; Solicitor, J. O. Ulrich.

A smallpox camp was established, at Lost Creek; there was appropriated \$4,000 for building.

Sept. 26, all employees resigned offices and were re-elected Sept. 30.

Directors Resigned In 1902

1902 Directors were: Mr. Becker, Mr. Kester, and Patrick Phillips; Steward, Dr. J. W. Sallada; Clerk, Minnie Phillips; Physician, Dr. J. V. Albert; Solicitor, W. F. Shepherd; Chief Nurse, Eleanore Creary; Asst. Chief Nurse, E. L. Richards; Student Nurses: Mary Sheeley, Rose Campbell, Edith Wade, Jennie Theil, Bertha Williams, Miss Maurer, Mrs. M. Welsh.

Directors Kester and Becker resigned and Robinhold and Price were appointed Directors.

Had Fire In 1903

1903 Directors were: Patrick Phillips, Fred Portz, and Anth. Schmickler; Steward, J. M. Sallada; Clerk, Minnie Phillips; Physician, J. V. Albert; Solicitor, Watson F. Shepherd; Chief Nurse, Miss Eleanore Creary; Asst. Chief Nurses, E. Richards and B. Hollenbach; Student Nurses: Misses Maurer, Welsh and Scanlon.

Fire in main building, June 17, 1903.

New range placed in main kitchen cost \$289 and is still in use (1935).

Changes In Physicians In 1904

1904 Directors were: Patrick Phillips, Fred Portz, and Anth. Schmicker; Steward, Morgan Albright; Clerk, Minnie Phillips; Physician, Dr. J. V. Albert; Solicitor, A. W. Schalck; Chief Nurse, Miss Eleanore Creary; Asst. Chief Nurses, Ray Davis, Nellie Welsh, B. Hollenbach. Student Nurses: Nellie Reinhard and Nellie Sheeley.

Dr. Albert resigned and Dr. Piper was elected physician, Dr. Piper later resigned and Dr. G. H. Moore was elected.

1905 Officials

1905 Directors were: Anthony Schmicker, Fred Portz, and Benj. Kauffman; Steward, Mark Albright; Clerk, M. L. Phillips; Solicitor, W. F. Shepherd; Chief Nurse, Eleanore Creary; Asst. Chief Nurse, Miss Scanlon; Student Nurses: Catherine O'Brien, B. Hartman, and Mary Long.

Directors In 1906

1906 Directors were: Fred Portz, Benj. Kauffman, and H. H. Brownmiller; Steward, Mark Albright; Clerk, M. L. Phillips; Physician, G. O. O. Santee; Solicitor, W. F. Shepherd; Chief Nurse, Miss Eleanore Creary; Asst. Chief Nurses, Misses Welsh and Scanlon; Student Nurses: Jennie Welsh, Nellie Reinhard, Catherine O'Brien, Barbara Hartman, and Mary Long.

Cows Poisoned In 1907

1907 Directors were: Benj. Kauffman, H. H. Brownmiller, and Robert Peel; Steward, Mark Albright; Physician, C. W. Gillette; Clerk, Geo. Knowles; Solicitor, Morris Moyer; Chief Nurse, Miss Eleanore Creary; Asst. Chief Nurses, Mary Long and Catherine O'Brien; Stu-

dent Nurses: Misses Hartman, Gooduskey, Mulhall, Edna Imboden, Mayme Holtzer, Francis Lennox, Elizabeth Wythe, Inez Harron.

In some way the cows were poisoned and the Directors offered a reward, but it was never found out who committed the crime.

Matron Died In 1908

1908 Directors were: H. H. Brownmiller, Robert Peel, and Thos. Evans; Steward, Mark Albright; Physician, Dr. John J. Whitehouse; Clerk, Thos. Peel; Solicitor, Morris H. Moyer; Chief Nurse, Miss Eleanore Creary; Asst. Chief Nurses, Misses Shappel, Lennox, Imboden, Holtzer, Wythe, Downey, Anthony.

Mrs. Albright, Matron, died. Mrs. Mary Hoffman was appointed to fill vacancy.

Additional new boiler was placed in service at boiler plant.

Change In Director's Term In 1909

1909 Directors were: H. H. Brownmiller, Thos. L. Evans, Chas. H. Heine, and Amos Spancake.

Owing to an Act of Legislature, three Directors of the Poor were elected for a term of four years instead of one each year.

Steward, Mark Albright; Clerk, Thos. Peel; Physician, Dr. J. R. Stein; Solicitor, Morris H. Moyer; Chief Nurse, Miss Eleanore Creary; Asst. Chief Nurses, Misses Mary A. Long and Frances Lennox; Student Nurses: Misses Shappel, Imboden, Bachman, Wythe, Downey, Anthony, Louchs, Harris, Moy.

Nurses Graduated In 1910

1910 Directors of the Poor: Evans, Brownmiller, Heine, and Spancake; Steward, Mark Albright; Clerk, Thos. Peel; Physician, John R. Stein, M. D.; Solicitor, Morris H. Moyer; Chief Nurse, Miss Eleanore Creary; Asst. Chief Nurses, Mary Long and Frances Lennox; Student Nurses:

Helen Harris, Mada Moy, Genevieve Louchs, Anna Buchanan, Statia Downey, Annie Anthony, Florence Phillips, Adeline Hackett.

Graduated during year: Statia Downey, Annie Anthony, and Genevieve Louchs.

1911 Directors and Nurses

1911 Directors were: Chas. H. Heine, H. H. Brownmiller and Amos Spancake. These directors served until 1916. Steward, Mark Albright; Clerk, Thos. Peel; Physician, C. W. Gillette; Solicitor, Morris H. Moyer; Chief Nurse, Mary Long; Asst. Nurses, Misses Genevieve Louchs and Mada Moy.

Student Nurses: Helen Harris, Ida Bowe, Laura Tiley, Jennie Lennox, Irene Faust, Anna Buchanan, Florence Phillips, Adeline Hackett.

Nurses that graduated: Anna Buchanan, Helen Harris, Florence Phillips.

Continue Directors

No change in directors in 1912. Steward was Mark Albright; Clerk, Thos. Peel; Physician, C. W. Gillette, M. D.; Solicitor, Morris H. Moyer; Chief Nurse, Mary Long; Asst. Nurses, Statia Downey and Mada Moy.

Student Nurses: Misses Adeline Hackett, Laura Tiley, Jennie Lennox, Ida Bowe, Misses Shinkle, Farrell and Hoffman.

Insane Building Completed In 1913

No change in Directors in 1913, nor any change in the force except that Miss Laura Tiley was an additional assistant nurse.

Student Nurses: Misses Ida Bowe, Laura Tiley, Jennie Lennox, Clara Shinkle, Agnes Farrell, Ella Hoffman, Bessie Buchanan, Loretta Madenford, Catherine Tiley, Ida Brown and Florence Evans.

New insane building was completed and all patients were re-

moved from almshouse to new building. Old building was repaired and used as an infirmary for patients.

The 1914 Force

In 1914 the Steward was Mark Albright; Clerk, Thos. Peel; Solicitor, Morris H. Moyer; Physician, C. W. Gillette; Chief Nurse, Mada Moy; and Asst. Nurses, Statia Downey and Agnes Farrell.

Student Nurses: Ida Brown, Florence Evans, Loretta Madenford, Catherine Tiley, Ella Hoffman, Anna E. Tucker, Tifelli Gowles, Clara Shinkle, Margaret Thompson.

New Pump Installed In 1915

In 1915, there was no change in the directors or the staff, Miss Mada Moy continued as Chief Nurse, with her assistants, Laura Tiley and Bessie Buchanan.

Student Nurses: Clara Shinkle, Margaret Thompson, Annie E. Tucker, Tifelli Gowles, Loretta Madenford, Catherine Tiley.

Air compressor and pump placed in boiler house for fresh water supply cost of installation, \$5,442.07.

Plans were completed to remodel stone house, at a cost of \$12,000, Commissioners could not furnish money for same.

New Directors In 1916

1916 Directors were: Chas. H. Heine, Fred Ahrensfield, and Michael H. Brennan. These directors served until 1919. Steward and Matron, Ed. Stine and Wife; Chief Clerk, Thos. Peel; Physician, C. W. Gillette, M. D.; Solicitor, Morris H. Moyer; Chief Nurse, Mary A. Long; Asst. Nurses, Agnes Farrell, Dena Schlottman, and Miss Gowles.

Student Nurses: Misses Helen Heckman, Claire Brennan, Catherine Pfeiffer, Lucy Brennan, Anne E. Tucker, Florence Williams, Mar-

garet Thompson, Alice Haskins and Adelle Louchs.

During the year, Infirmary No. 2 dining rooms were repaired; fire escapes were placed in Infirmary No. 2; sun parlors were placed on hospital, Wertley Sons, Contractors. Amount of contract, \$2,492.50.

Improvements In 1917

In 1917, the only staff change was in the assistant nurses who were: Bessie Buchanan and Helen Heckman.

Student Nurses: Misses Priscilla Kohlner, Claire Brennan, Martha Yeastedt, Martha Hoke, Anna Hummel, Adelle Louchs.

During the year, the hospital was repainted, metal ceiling was placed on ceiling, sterilizer installed in operating room at cost of \$1,684.29.

First dough mixer installed in bakery, at a cost of \$550. Same mixer is still in use (1935).

Asked Room for Patients In 1918

Miss Emma Richards was added as an assistant nurse in 1918.

Anna Gregor and Alice Haskins became student nurses.

Directors requested additional space for sick patients, at hospital. Commissioners refused to furnish money for same.

Director Ahrensfield Died In 1919

1919 Directors were: Fred Ahrensfield, Chas. H. Heine, Michael H. Brennan, and Wm. Womer; Steward and Matron, Edward Stine and Wife; Chief Clerk, Thomas Peel; Physician, C. W. Gillette; Solicitor, Morris H. Moyer; Chief Nurse, Mary A. Long; Asst. Nurses, Emma Richards, Helen Heckman, Martha Yeastedt.

Student Nurses: Anna Hummel, Adonia Rice, Anna Gregor, Martha Hoke, Alice Haskins, Jeanette Bebelheimer, Mary Phyllis, Elsie Zeigler.

Director of the Poor Fred Ahrensfield died March 6, 1919.

William Womer was appointed to fill vacancy.

Director Bevan Died In 1920

1920 Directors were: Wm. A. Womer, Samuel Bevan, Michael H. Brennan, and John M. Coombs; Steward and Matron, Edw. Stine and Wife; Chief Clerk, Thos. Peel; Solicitor, M. H. Moyer; Physician, C. W. Gillette; Chief Nurse, Mary A. Long; Student Nurses, Adonia Rice, Martha Yeastedt, Ann Gregor, Anna Hummel, Elsie Zeigler.

Director Samuel Bevan died Mar. 5, 1920. John M. Coombs was appointed to fill vacancy.

Twenty-eight of the 32 head of cows were condemned for tuberculosis, by Dr. Reed, Allentown, and same were ordered killed.

Bought Pedigreed Cattle In 1921

1921 Directors were: John M. Coombs, Wm. A. Womer, Michael H. Brennan, and Thos. Tosh; Steward and Matron, Edw. Stine and Wife; Chief Clerk, Thos. Peel; Solicitor, M. H. Moyer; Physician, C. W. Gillette; Chief Nurse, Mary A. Long; Asst. Nurses, Alice Haskins, Helen Heckman.

Student Nurses: Adonia Rice, Martha Yeastedt, Anna Hummel, Elsie Gregor, Beatrice Flemming, and Dorothy Boyle.

During the year the Board decided to purchase the following Ayrshires from Pennhurst: 3 cows; 3 heifers; 1 bull; cost, \$2,280.

Barn was renovated with the placing of Jamesway System at a cost of \$4,465.51.

The above Ayrshire was the foundation of the present Ayrshire herd.

There was also purchased 12 Brown Swiss Cows and one Bull.

Chas. H. Heine was appointed investigator for the Poor District at a salary of \$2,000 per year.

Permission was granted to the State Department of Forestry to place nursery on almshouse grounds, they to use one acre of ground.

Stopped Training of Nurses In 1922

1922 Directors were: Wm. A. Womer, Thos. Tosh, and Michael H. Brennan.

Student Nurses: Adonia Rice, Martha Yeastedt, Annie Hummel, Elsie Gregor, Beatrice Flemming.

During the year, training school for the nurses was abolished.

Six Ayrshire Cows were purchased for \$1,065.

Middle Coal Field Poor District boarded 32 patients in the institution while their institution was being remodeled.

Boilers repaired by G. A. Schimpf contract \$1,720.

Exhibited Cattle at Fair In 1923

1923 Directors were: Wm. A. Womer, Thos. Tosh, Michael H. Brennan; Steward and Matron, Edw. Stine and Wife; Chief Clerk, Thos. Peel; Solicitors, M. H. Moyer and Henry Houck; Physician, C. W. Gillette; Investigator, C. H. Heine; Asst. Nurses, Alice Haskins, Helen Heckman and Martha Yeastedt; Attendants: Anna Scott, Mary Scott, Ella Harty.

Purchased 4 cows, \$675.

County Controller and Commissioners with Directors viewed stone building, and same was remodeled to be used as a ground cellar.

All maple trees in yard were cut down, to make room for fruit trees.

Meters were placed on all steam and water lines, to determine amount used in both institutions.

Fire partly destroyed the Folk farm house July 31, 1923.

Cattle were placed at County Fair.

Proposed Addition To Hospital

1924 Directors were: Wm. A. Womer, Fred C. Holman, and Amos Spancake. These directors served until 1928. Steward and Matron, Edw. Stine and Wife; Chief Clerk, Thos. Peel; Solicitor, Henry Houck; Physician, G. H. Knauer; Investigator, Jos. Bruno; Nurses: Alice Haskins, Helen Heckman, Martha Yeastedt; Attendant Nurses: Anna Scott, Mary Scott, Ella Harty, Agnes Trowsky, Elva Madenford, Lucy Gilbert.

Mr. Holman made a recommendation that they build a new addition to hospital.

Note: This building was since built and is now occupied by the female infirmary patients.

Painting of the following buildings and costs: Infirmary No. 2, cost \$839.65; bake house and hose house, cost \$725; barn, \$494.60.

New stack placed on insane building boiler, cost \$1385, and was paid from funds of Poor District.

Purchased a pair of horses at a cost of \$475.

The Board sold a piece of ground of 10 acres to the Sch. Haven School District for \$1,000. This sale was negotiated by the Rotary Club of Sch. Haven.

Buildings Painted In 1925

Steward and Matron, Edw. Stine and Wife; Chief Clerk, Thos. Peel; Solicitor, Henry Houck; Physician, C. H. Knauer, M. D.; Investigator, Jos. Bruno; Nurses, Alice Haskins, Helen Heckman and Martha Yeastedt; Attendant Nurses: Mary Scott, Anna Scott, Elva Madenford, Lucy Gilbert, and Cora Koons.

Small buildings painted for \$3,150; main building, Infirmary No. 1, \$1,889.

Change In Physicians 1926

Steward and Matron, Edw. Stine and Wife; Chief Clerk, Thos. Peel; Solicitor, Henry Houck; Physician, C. H. Knauer, M. D. and A. M. Cross, M. D.; Investigator, Jos. Bruno; Chief Nurse, Alberta Cross; Nurses, Alice Haskins, Helen Heckman, Martha Yeastedt; Attendant Nurses, Mary Scott, Anna Scott, Lucy Gilbert, Cora Koons, Elizabeth Phillips.

During the year, pig pens and all other small buildings were repainted.

During the year, Dr. C. H. Knauer resigned and A. M. Cross was employed as physician.

Physician and Nurse Resign

1927 Steward and Matron was Edw. Stine and Eliz. Pelton; Chief Clerk, Thos. Peel; Solicitor, M. H. Moyer; Physician, A. M. Cross, M. D. and Leichtenwalner, M. D.; Chief Nurses, Alberta Cross and Marion L. Leichtenwalner; Asst. Nurses, Alice Haskins and Helen Heckman; Attendants, Mary Scott, Anna Scott, Lucy Gilbert, Cora Koons, Elizabeth Phillips, Minnie Killian, Anna Urban, Olive Meck.

During the year there was purchased a pair of farm horses for \$500.

Dr. A. M. Cross resigned as physician and Alberta Cross resigned as chief nurse and Dr. M. B. Leichtenwalner and Marion Leichtenwalner were appointed to said positions.

Storage Building Erected

1928 Directors of the Poor: Frank C. Reese, Jos. M. McKeon, and Fred C. Holman; Steward and Matron, Wm. H. Powell and Wife; Chief Clerk, Thos. Peel; Solicitor, H. O. Bechtel; Physician, H. O. Leichtenwalner; Chief Nurses, Marion Leichtenwalner and Mary Long; Asst. Nurse, Alice Haskins; Attendant Nurses, Anna Scott, Eliz. Phil-

lips, Annie Urban, Olive Meck, Beatrice Shappell, Ethel Becker, Olive Dean, Grace Houser, Stella Heffner; Investigator, Harry C. Hoffman.

Two wooden silos were built at barn.

On Mr. Holman's recommendation, old ground cellar was torn down and store building and new ground cellar was erected.

Hose house was remodeled for 2 dwellings, at a cost of \$3,950.

Return To 1831 Act

1929 Directors were: Reese, McKeon, and Holman; Steward and Matron, Wm. H. Powell and Wife; Chief Clerk, Thos. Peel; Solicitor, Geo. Paxson; Physician, Dr. L. D. Heim; Investigator, H. C. Hoffman; Chief Nurse, Mary A. Long; Asst. Nurse, Alice Haskins; Attendant Nurses, Anna Scott, Eliz. Phillips, Anna Urban, Olive Dean, Grace Houser, Margaret Smith, Myrtle Lynch.

Board by request of the County Commissioners, returned to work under 1831 Act.

All outside electrical poles and wires were replaced.

Boilers repaired by George A. Schimpf at a cost of \$9,400.

Silos were blown down by electrical and wind storm.

Electrical refrigerator was installed.

Appointed Visiting Committee 1930

1930 Directors were: Reese, McKeon, and Holman; Steward and Matron, Wm. H. Powell and Wife; Chief Clerk, Thos. Peel; Solicitor, Geo. Paxson; Investigator, Harry C. Hoffman; Physician, Dr. L. D. Heim; Chief Nurse, Mary A. Long; Asst. Nurse, Alice Haskins; Attendants, Anna Scott, Eliz. Phillips, Helen Davis, Mrs. Lurwick, Myrtle Lynch, Olive Dean, Margaret Smith.

Visiting committee appointed to visit various institutions. Appointment made under Act. of June 6, 1913.

Insane building engine repaired at cost of \$454.10.

Survey made of water lines from dam.

Purchase of small boar from Chas. Swab farm of Cressona.

Incendiary Burned Barn

1931 Directors were: Frank C. Reese, Jos. McKeon, and Fred C. Holman; Steward and Matron, Wm. H. Powell and Wife; Chief Clerk, Thos. Peel; Solicitor, Geo. M. Paxson; Physician, Dr. L. D. Heim; Chief Nurse, Mary A. Long; Asst. Nurse, Alice Haskins; Attendants, Anna Scott, Margaret Brown, Eliz. Phillips, Helen Davis, Olive Dean, Myrtle Lynch, Ethel Griffiths, Miss Walton, Lottie Gregor.

During the year, the laundry building was built.

Sept. 9, 1931, fire completely destroyed barn. Insurance collected, \$13,536.

Mike Lipko, an inmate, was convicted for burning barn and was sentenced from 4 to 8 years in Sch. County Prison.

Harry C. Hoffman resigned as investigator and Frank C. Reese, Jr., was appointed.

Administered Talbot Relief

1932 Directors were: Reese, Holman, and McKeon; Steward and Matron, Wm. H. Powell and Wife; Chief Clerk, Thomas Peel; Solicitor, Morris H. Moyer; Physician, Dr. L. D. Heim; Chief Nurse, Mary A. Long; Asst. Nurse, Alice Haskins; Attendants, Anna Scott, Eliz. Phillips, Lottie Gregor, Myrtle Lynch, Olive Dean, Eliz. Mervine, Ethel Griffiths; Investigators, Jos. Wyatt, Herbert Noakes, Bruce Fellows, F. C. Reese, Jr., Edgar Brown.

New barn constructed by the Tamaqua Construction Co. at a cost of \$8,406.

County Commissioners notified Poor Board that they would furnish no money to finance the Poor Board. Board was compelled to return and operate under the Act of 1925. It was necessary to borrow money, which right was established by the Poor Board appealing to the courts. By a decision of President Judge Koch, they were empowered to borrow money. It then became necessary for the Poor Board to levy their own taxes which was 3 1-2 mills.

The Talbot Unemployment Relief to the amount of \$259,000 was administered by the Poor Board at a cost of less than 2% including printing. Orders were issued directly to local merchants, no chain stores receiving any.

1800 bushels of potatoes grown on the county farms were donated to the various local charities.

A new dining room and kitchen was built adjoining Infirmary No. 1. This building was equipped to seat 385 patients and bed space for sleeping quarters for 75 patients.

Director Reese Died In 1933

1933 Directors were: Reese, Holman, and McKeon; Steward and Matron, Wm. H. Powell and Wife; Chief Clerk, Thomas Peel; Solicitor, M. H. Moyer and Walter Treibly; Physician, Dr. L. D. Heim; Chief Nurse, Mary A. Long; Asst. Nurse, Alice Haskins; Attendant Nurses, Anna Scott, Eliz. Phillips, Margaret Brown, Helen Davis, Ethel Griffiths, Lottie Gregor, Myrtle Lynch, Martha Shaeffer, Olive Dean, Elizabeth Mervine, Helen Selinko.

Investigators: Frank C. Reese, Jr., Bruce Fellows, Jos. Wyatt, Edgar Brown, Jos. McKeon, Jr.

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Frank C. Reese, Director, died April 10, 1933. The court appointed Chas. F. Miller as Director and his appointment was sustained by the Supreme Court.

The Board employed an architect to draw plans and supervise the erection of an addition to the Sch. County Hospital.

Edgar Brown was detailed to make a survey of the different state institutions where county has children patients.

Bids were opened for the hospital addition. Contracts were awarded as follows: H. John Homan Co., Phila., general contract, \$59,125; Corbit & Fritz, Reading, plumbing and heating, \$12,522; Wm. L. Long & Co., electrical contract, \$1,391.

Millage for 1933, 3½ mills.

Reduced Millage In 1934

1934 Directors were: Fred C. Holman, Jos. M. McKeon, and Chas. F. Miller; Steward and Matron, Wm. H. Powell and Wife; Chief Clerk, Thos. Peel; Solicitor, Walter G. Treibly; Physician, Dr. L. D. Heim; Chief Nurse, Mary A. Long; Asst. Nurse, Alice Haskins; Attendant Nurses, Anna Scott, Eliz. Phillips, Margaret Brown, Helen Davis, Ethel Griffiths, Lottie Gregor, Myrtle Lynch, Martha Schaeffer, Olive Dean, Helen Selinko, Rachael Meyers; Investigators, Bruce Fellows, Jos. Wyatt, Frank C. Reese, Jr., Jos. McKeon, Jr.

New steam line placed in cement conduit under walk, same was installed from boiler house to barn.

Purchased Ayrshire bull from H. J. Fritz, of New York State.

Purchased three horses and two mules.

There was installed at boiler house and coal house an ash and coal conveyor. This does away with the necessity of inmates hauling coal and ashes with wheel-barrow.

Purchased new Chevrolet truck for general hauling at a cost of \$677.10.

Electrical fixture contract for new addition awarded to Bronk & Benedict & Sons, of Shenandoah for \$893.

John Conrad & Sons, Port Carbon, awarded contract for screens, cost \$637.49.

The laundry building was equipped with modern laundry machinery, contract awarded to Keystone Laundry Equipment Co. Contract price, \$2,772.52.

Contract to cover hospital and office floors with battleship linoleum, awarded to Hummel & Sons, Pottsville, at a cost of \$3,693.83.

Schuylkill Co. Medical Society held their monthly meeting at almshouse new building.

The court appointed Howard Schaeffer, Park Crest, Oscar Skeath, Mahanoy City, and Edwin Becker, Sch. Haven as Viewers for the new building, which they approved and they so informed the court.

New building was accepted and occupied by patients.

New asphalt roads were laid around hospital and almshouse grounds. Contract was awarded to P. S. Canfield of New Phila.

The directors of the poor decided to build four sick wards for female patients and contracts were awarded as follows: Wm. A. Waid, Shillington, Pa., general contract, \$35,986; R. E. Wolf, Harrisburg, plumbing contract, \$4,411; Wm. H. Leidich, Pottsville, heating contract, \$4,700; and W. L. Long & Co., Upper Darby, electrical contract, \$891.50.

Millage for 1934, 3 mills.

Note: With the vast improvements the poor board was able to reduce the millage from 3½ mills to 3 mills.

Again Reduced Millage In 1935

1935 Directors: Holman, McKeon, and Miller; Steward and Matron,

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Wm. H. Powell and Wife; Chief Clerk, Thos. Peel; Solicitor, Walter G. Treibly; Physician, Dr. L. D. Heim; Chief Nurse, Mary A. Long; Asst. Nurse, Alice Haskins; Attendant Nurses, Anna Scott, Eliz. Phillips, Ethel Griffiths, Lottie Gregor, Myrtle Lynch, Martha Schaeffer, Olive Dean, Helen Selinko, Rachael Meyers; Investigators, Frank C. Reese, Jr., Jos. McKeon, Jr., H. Bruce Fellows, Jos. Wyatt.

During the year, the Directors of the Poor expect to finish and equip new sick wards at hospital; renovate infirmaries Nos. 1 and 2; finish walls at entrance to almshouse; build new poultry houses, and purchase a new farm truck.

Millage for 1935, 2½ mills.

The above improvements will be constructed during year 1935, and Directors were able by strict economy to reduce the millage from 3 mills to 2½ mills.



History of New Philadelphia

(From "Pottsville Republican"—"Morning Paper," April 16-24, 1935)

This history is dedicated to the memory of those pioneers, both past and present in New Phila., who have so valiantly striven for the advancement of the community, and in whose debt we shall ever be.

To preserve the memories of the past, to review the accomplishments of the present, to encourage the highest efforts of the future residents of New Phila., the committee has compiled the most important and desirable material for the history of the community, and trust that its sincere endeavors will be favorably received.

The members acknowledge the invaluable assistance of the residents of New Phila. in gathering the material for this history. The committee is also deeply grateful to the various persons who in any way assisted in the preparation of this history.

The history committee is as follows: Mary Brennan, Catherine Butler, Anna Mae Flood, Marie Lescavage, Stanley Smith, Margaret Whalen, Jos. Burnakus, Wm. Clemens, Betty Leonard, Vincent Stess, Julia Tamulavage, Isabel Zitkus; supervised by Miss Julia C. Murray, Social Studies Dept., Blythe Township High School.

Significant Facts of New Phila.

The borough of New Phila., is located on the Phila. and Reading Railroad, mid-way between Tam-aqua and Pottsville. It was the largest and most prosperous section of Blythe Twp. before it was incorporated as a borough in 1868. The town was named after the city of Phila.

New Phila. was planned by Messrs. Wetherill; the land was owned by Messrs. Barlow and Evans.

The first meeting of the Borough Council was held at the house of Chas. Tanner, on Feb. 28, 1868.

The first president of the Town Council was Chas. Tanner, who was then the chief burgess, and who acted as president of the Town Council.

The first secretary elected was Benj. O'Hare, and his compensation was fixed at \$1.00 per meeting.

David Whitehouse was elected the first borough treasurer and tax collector. Both offices were combined at that time.

D. G. Barnett was elected the first street commissioner at a salary of \$1.50 a day. The wages of laborers were fixed at \$1.00 per day.

Hon. O. P. Bechtel was the attorney for the incorporation, and was elected the first solicitor at an annual salary of \$20.

Council Ordinances

One of the first acts of the Council was the passing of a resolution to borrow \$150 for one year at a rate of interest "not to exceed eight per cent." The committee, appointed to secure the loan in Pottsville from the banks, did not succeed in securing the loan, and Chas. Tanner loaned the money at eight per cent. for one year.

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The first ordinance was passed Mar. 8, 1868, and was to prohibit the running at large of "cattle or animals of a dangerous nature."

The members passed an ordinance to prevent the hauling of timber through the streets, and also an ordinance for "securing the borough from damage by gun or blasting powder." Another was passed "prohibiting the use of spring balances."

On Apr. 1, 1868, the Council appointed six police officers to be provided with stars, staves, billies and handcuffs.

On May 13, 1868, Council desired to have the borough surveyed, and consulted a Mr. Hawley, who estimated the cost as \$120, stating he was not acquainted with the corners, and if lines were free from brush and corners, the cost would be much less.

In May, we find that Chief Burgess Chas. Tanner was fined 50 cents for not attending a stated meeting. However, the fine was remitted for a "reasonable excuse being offered."

The first tax levy was made on July 6, on a valuation of \$64,000, and the rate of mills levied was 10.

In June, 1869, we find a dispute by certain citizens of Blythe Twp. demanding the possession of a copy of Purdon's Digest. The Council refused to part with same unless ordered by the court.

Dogs must have been numerous, as Council passed laws to muzzle dogs and tax owners.

Mules also must have been numerous and running at large; we find in July's record, 1869, three mules impounded and to be advertised in the Miners' Journal of Pottsville, Pa., as strays.

In Apr., 1871, the fixing and repairing of streets were given by

bids. The first successful bidder was D. G. Barnett, who agreed to repair streets for the sum of \$120 for one year, and furnish a bond.

The contract for repairing streets was abolished in 1875, and the first road master appointed was Wm. Yorke, at a salary of \$2 per day.

In 1875, the New Phila. Coal Mining Co. made a request through Wm. McQuail, agent of the Council, to send men to work out the company tax. The request was refused.

In May, 1875, Council voted that councilmen, burgess and clerk be paid \$3 for attending special meetings, which we find were well attended.

On July 22, 1876, a donation of \$20 was presented to Chas. Tanner for raising a flag pole.

The first paid police were appointed on Dec. 21, 1877, and the following were chosen: Peter Daily and John O'Hearn, at a salary of \$50 per year, to be paid quarterly, with instructions to close all saloons at 10 o'clock p. m. They served for one year, and the service was discontinued.

In Oct., 1878, an order was drawn in favor of W. J. Whitehouse for professional services, and he was elected solicitor at a salary of \$20 per year.

In Mar., 1884, Council voted "\$1 per meeting for refreshments."

On Apr., 1887, Council passed a resolution to have the proceedings of the Town Council published in the Pottsville Evening Chronicle.

In Nov., 1887, after years of litigation in the courts over the amount of indebtedness of the borough to Blythe Twp., which claim originally was for \$4,374.73, the township officials compromised on the payment of \$2,500, which

was paid off by the borough issuing bonds.

In Jan., 1882. a dozen street oil lamps were installed, and the contract for lighting the lamps and furnishing oil and cotton was awarded to Thos. Bohan for the sum of \$10 per month.

In 1893, the Council levied the tax mills by motion. The Alliance Coal Mining Co. brought action against the Council in court, that the levy was illegal, and which the court upheld. The tax levy should have been made by a resolution.

In June, 1898, the Chief Burgess was instructed to notify all saloon keepers, to keep their beer kegs off the streets, under a penalty of \$5.

The Council in 1899, erected the present municipal building at a cost of \$1,750, including the ground, which was built by the Alliance Coal Mining Company and the cost of the building was paid in three years, and was deducted from the taxes of the Company.

In 1903 an ordinance was granted to the Silver Creek Water Company to furnish water for the town. The main was laid during the year 1904 and the water was turned on Oct. 1, 1904.

No important ordinances were passed after that until the year 1933, when a siren was installed. Any child under sixteen years of age shall not be allowed or permitted to go or be in or upon any street, alley or public common after nine o'clock, unless reasonable necessity exists. The police will arrest without warrant and place in confinement and notify parent, guardian or other persons responsible for child, who will be held responsible for the penalty of two dollars and costs, or be confined in the borough lockup for a period not exceeding five days.

In the last several years the bell which was used as a curfew has been removed and a powerful siren installed.

The first election poll while New Phila. was a part of Blythe Township, from 1858 to 1860 was held in the tavern owned by Larry O'Brien on the south side of Valley St., now owned by Mellet and Nichter and occupied as a saloon by Wm. Wassell. In 1861 it was transferred to the house of Thomas Beddas in the property now owned by the Ellis Estate. In 1864 it was removed to the home of D. G. Barnett until 1867. When the borough was incorporated in 1868 it was removed to the property of Margaret Kelly, where it remained for years. It was later changed to the fire house where it continues to be held.

Committees of Council 1934-35 were as follows: Highway Department: Ed. Boran, chairman; Paul Rodgers, Joseph Yuhas.

Buildings and Repairs: Ed Boran, chairman; Vince Kelly, J. Serafin.

Finance and Law: Jos. Yuhas, chairman; J. Serafin, Ed. Boran.

Light and Fire: Mike Wilchinsky, chairman; Ed. Boran, Paul Rodgers.

New Phila. Borough Government

President of Council, T. C. Shaudis; chief burgess, Wm. Wassell; constable, J. Shamonskie; treasurer, J. Serafin; receiver of taxes, M. Gataveskas; supervisor, Patrick Boran; secretary, Joseph Savitskas; solicitor, T. C. Scott; auditors, John Toomey, George Bagdonas, Edw. Wassell; janitress, Mrs. P. Rodgers; justices of the peace, C. B. Walters, George Skripko.

The town council stated meeting is the first Monday of every month at 8:00 p. m. Members: Thomas C. Shaudis, Vince Kelly, Ed. Boran, J. Serafin, Mike Wilchinsky, Jos. Yuhas, Paul Rodgers.

The Board of Health meets the first Monday of each month. The following are members at the present time: P. C. Boord, M. D., president; Al. Shaudis, Pete Kunaitis, Frank Burke, Simon Zubris, Mike Wilchinsky. Their terms will expire in 1935.

Salaries of officials are as follows: Chief Burgess, per year \$300; supervisors per year, \$600; janitor, \$180; secretary, \$200; Secy. of Board of Health \$74; solicitor, \$200; health officer, \$240; laborers per day, \$1.65; trucks, \$10.

The assessed valuation of the borough in the year of 1914 was \$382,473; in the year 1868 it was \$63,640 and in 1935 approximately \$1,200,000.

The tax levy for the year 1914 was borough tax 11 mills, special tax, 6 mills; in 1857, borough 8 mills, special, 6 mills; tax levy of 1934 was borough 16 mills, special 12 7-10 mills.

The population was: 1870, 558; 1880, 360; 1890, 562; 1900, 1,362; 1910, 2,512; 1935 approximately 2,700.

The following money was expended for improvements from 1902 until 1914 for bridges and sewers: Clay Street sewer, \$2,200; Water St., \$1,357; Water St. addition, \$1,773.60; Water St. addition, \$1,110; Valley St. sewer, \$1,300; Valley St. sewer, \$495; Macomb Street sewer, \$110; Wiggan St. sewer, \$400; Macomb St. bridge, \$2,190; Kimber St. bridge, \$1,364; Silver Creek arch, \$4,675; total, \$17,394.60.

Since that time no bridges were erected and only one sewer was installed on Wiggan St. in the year 1934 and this was a CWA project.

EARLY SETTLERS

Nathan Barlow, Esq., came to Sch. Co. in 1820, and built a saw mill upon the banks of the Sch. River on the site of New Phila.

In 1836, he built a hotel of stone, the second one to be built in that town.

Nathan Barlow was elected magistrate in the year 1840, and continued in office until 1865. He was an important personage of New Phila., having been the first school teacher in the entire valley, teaching as early as 1825. He was employed in that capacity in New Phila. in 1832, and at all times commanded the respect of the entire community.

Crosby Family

Patrick Crosby came to this country about the year 1818 from the Co. Donegal, Ireland, and settled in Chester Co., Penna. During the building of the Sch. Canal, on which he did contract work, he came to this section and settled in Pottsville. Mr. Crosby engaged in many lines of business, and in 1827 built what was known as the Pottsville House on the corner of Centre and Mahantongo Sts., now the site of the Raring Building. He kept a store and tavern there.

About the year 1830, Mr. Crosby returned to Ireland, remaining 21 years. He came to this country again in the year 1851, and settled in Sch. Valley, living in Port Carbon, Patterson and New Phila., at which center the Crosby family still resides.

Neil Crosby was born Jan. 10, 1839, on a farm in Co. Donegal, Ireland. He died Dec. 8, 1915, and was buried in the Holy Family Cemetery, New Phila. He was married to Catherine Duffy on Oct. 2, 1864. The following are their children living in New Phila. today: Sophia, Nellie, Mary, now Mrs. Jos. P. Flanigan; Catherine, wife of Thos. P. Butler; Owen, Jas., and John.

Ennis Family

The Ennis family arrived here in the year of 1840. Their first residence was next to the Rishel and Crosby store, and later the members moved down into town, and were located beside the Holy Family Church. This family consisted of five members—the father, Jas. Ennis; the mother, Mary Ennis; two daughters, Mary and Johanna, and one son, Moses.

Two years after Mr. Ennis came to this vicinity, he opened a shoe store, in which shoes were made to order. He conducted this business for eight years. He died in the year of 1850.

Moses Ennis, son of Jas. Ennis, became the warden of the Pottsville Jail, and remained there for many years. He died in the year 1913.

Johanna Ennis, sister of the late Moses Ennis, married Wm. McQuail, who at that time was the superintendent of the Shoo Fly coal operation situated in the lower left section of New Phila. Wm. McQuail left New Phila. to go South. He lived in West Virginia, where he prospered and had vast coal lands in West Virginia. Johanna Ennis McQuail died in the year of 1929, in Pottsville.

Mary Ennis, last of this family, lived in New Phila., in the old homestead, where she conducted a little store, selling a complete line of candy, ice cream and dry goods. She lived here for 82 years until her death in the year of 1932.

Other Early Residents

John Haggerty was an early justice of the peace, and served over 18 years.

Chas. Tanner was the first chief burgess of the borough. He was born in England in 1830, and came to America in 1852. He followed

various kinds of business. He had two sons, Howard and Jos., of New Phila. Their families are now residing in the borough.

Jas. P. O'Hare

In 1870, Jas. P. O'Hare, who was born in New Phila. in 1852, and later lived in Cumbola, was chief burgess. He was a fireman at the Eagle Hill Mine. At present he has three grandsons, living in Lake Run, Jas., Felix and Bernard Casserly. They are also the nephews of Felix O'Hare, who was born in Montreal, Canada, and came to New Phila. in 1847. He wrote many poems and songs; among them was the noted song, "The Shoofly." Other nieces and nephews are: Mrs. John Connelly, Mrs. Anthony Snyder, Jos. O'Hare and Thos. F. Whalen, local contractor, all of town, and Mrs. Jos. McDermitt, of Tamaqua.

Patrick J. Kelly

Patrick J. Kelly was chief burgess in 1871. He was born in Blythe Township in 1847, and resided in New Phila. He was outside boss at the Alliance Colliery. His family still remains in town. His children are: Vincent, an employe of the P. & R. C. & I. Co.; Alice, school teacher in Middleport; Patrick, J., runs a tavern; Margaret and Lucy have a grocery store in town.

Michael Whalen

In 1874 and 1875, the chief burgess was Michael Whalen. John F. Whalen, former prominent Pottsville lawyer, was his son. The latter was born in Kaska, and in his early childhood days moved to New Phila. He taught school in Valley Furnace, Tucker Hill and Kaska. Later he studied law under the guidance of Major Ellis, of Potts-

ville. Thos Campbell, of Pottsville, is his nephew.

Wm. McQuail

Wm. McQuail was born in Ireland in 1845, and came to America in 1856, locating in New Phila. He was chief burgess here for two years, and beginning in 1873, he was superintendent of the Alliance Mine for many years. Previous to that he was superintendent of the Eagle Hill Mine. He held many other borough offices. His brother-in-law, Michael F. Flanigan, who was born in Scotland, Feb. 27, 1848, was boss at the Alliance Mine. Lt. Patrick McQuail is a brother of Wm., and served as 1st Lieut. in the Civil War. His three sons are now residing in New Phila. They are: Patrick, Edw., and John.

Lawrence Ennis

In the years 1878, 1879 and 1880, Lawrence Ennis, a carpenter of New Phila., was chief burgess. He was born in Ireland and came to America in 1850; he was Lieutenant and Captain in the Civil War.

Nicholas Boland

Nicholas Boland was born in Blythe Twp., Sept. 14, 1848, and was the son of Jos. Boland, who settled here about 30 years previous. He was a miner and lived in New Phila. Mrs. Elizabeth Sharpe is the only surviving member of the family. At present she is making her home with her daughter and son, Margaret and John, in town; a son, Thos., lives in Tremont.

John McQuail

John McQuail, who was engaged in the lumbering business, was born in Ireland, Aug. 14, 1848. He lived in New Phila. for many years. The families of his two daughters, Mrs. Bridget Campbell and Mrs. Mar-

garet Flanigan, are residing in town.

Wm. Williams

Wm. Williams was one of the early settlers here. He conducted a tavern below the Feeley property on Valley St. He has two grandsons, Wm., an engineer at New Phila., and Edw., outside boss of Locust Summit Colliery. He dealt with mules, hauling timber to and from the colliery. The hill behind the Holy Family Cemetery, named "Billie's Hill" was named for him, because he was accustomed to lead the mules up the hill every Sunday.

Business Men of Borough

The principal business men of New Phila. have been Nathan Barlow, Michael Rooney, Edmund Ennis and Wesley Dodson.

The remaining descendants of Michael Rooney are his four daughters: Mrs. Langton, oldest of his 10 children: Miss Ann and Miss Bezie, who still live in the old homestead. Mrs. Thos. Slattery, of Phila., is the youngest of the children.

The local business of 1880 was done by Michael Rooney and John Egan, merchants; John P. Feeley, tea and spice merchant; Chas. Tanner, liveryman; Wm. McQuail, superintendent for the Alliance Coal Co., and Mrs. Jas. Ennis, dealer in boots and shoes. The postmaster was Michael Egan.

The grandsons of John Egan are: John M. Egan, electrician, and M. J. V. Kelly, present postmaster.

The local tea and spice merchant of 1880, John P. Feeley, has a sister and two brothers living in town, Mrs. Catherine Kenna, and Messrs. Hugh and Wm. Feeley.

Patrick S. Canfield

Patrick S. Canfield, of New Phila., was occupied in educational

work from his youth until 1926, but he has also given a considerable portion of his time to successful business enterprises, and was also a former postmaster of the Silver Creek Postoffice in New Phila.

Mr. Canfield is of Penna. birth and Irish extraction. His grandfather, Edw. Canfield, was a native of Ireland, from which country he brought his family to America and settled at Windy Harbor, in Blythe Twp., Sch. Co. His son, John, the father of Patrick S. Canfield, who was born in Ireland, accompanied his parents to the United States. He became a stationary engineer, and was employed in that capacity by the P. & R. C. & I. Co., at Eagle Hill for 35 years, making a high record for efficiency and fidelity. He never had any accidents nor was injured at his post. When 65 years old, he was intrusted with the sinking of a shaft for the company, in whose employ he continued until the strike of 1902. His death occurred Oct. 9, 1909, and he is buried at New Phila. John Canfield married Mary Burns. The following children were born to this union: Mary, who is now deceased, married Joseph Gannon, of New Phila.; Jas. F., lives at Pottsville; John W.; Annie is the wife of W. R. Lawrence, of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Robt. has been assistant superintendent for the Prudential Life Insurance Co. at Lansford; Patrick S. completes the family.

Patrick S. Canfield was born July 25, 1881, at Windy Harbor in Blythe Twp. He acquired his early education in the local public schools, under Co. Supt. Livingston Seltzer. He exemplified his ability so well that at the early age of 16 he was given a position as teacher of the Silver Creek school in Blythe Twp., where he remained three years. He

also taught and supervised in Middleport, North Manheim Twp. and New Phila. schools.

For several years Mr. Canfield conducted a general store at Cum-bola, but discontinued his business in 1910. He also acted as registrar of births and deaths in Blythe Twp. and New Phila. At present he is a very successful contractor of New Phila. Mr. Canfield also takes an active part in the civic and social affairs of the town.

Michael Michosheff

Michael Michosheff was the first Lithuanian to settle here in 1893. His residence was on the property of Mrs. Mary Martin, on the corner of Water and Wiggan Sts. He was the first of his class to go into business, and in 1894 purchased the saloon of William Cullen on Valley St. Recently he purchased the old New Phila. public school, and had it torn down. At the present time he owns property in Hecla on the Little Schuylkill, where he is conducting a tavern.

Adam Shaudis

Adam Shaudis and his wife settled here about 35 years ago. Their son, Thos., a plumber, has a hardware store on Valley St.

Wm. Lescavage, Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Lescavage, Sr., came to New Phila. from Lithuania over 35 years ago. Mr. Lescavage is now deceased, but his wife still resides here. Their son is Wm. Lescavage, at present employed as assistant foreman of the Bell Colliery. He is also a carpenter, and is the president of the New Phila. School Board.

Michael Kolessar

Michael Kolessar was among the first Slavish people here. He has

three sons: Jos. and Geo., of town, and Paul, of Tucker Hill.

Andrew Junior

Andrew Junior settled in New Phila. about the same time. He was engaged in mining. Geo. and John Junior are his sons.

Stephen Yeager

Stephen Yeager and his wife, now deceased, settled here many years ago. At present he is making his home in town with his daughter, Mrs. Thos. Edwards. Mary, another daughter, is married to Jos., son of Michael Kolessar.

Stephen Matlock

Stephen Matlock and his wife came to town about 41 years ago. They own much property here, and have several children residing in New Phila.

THE INDUSTRIES

Nathan Barlow built a saw mill upon the banks of the Schuylkill River on the site of New Phila. at the junction of Silver Creek with the Schuylkill. The timber was floated down the river to Phila.

The first tavern conducted at this junction was built by Abel Fitzwater of Montgomery County in 1828. Another hotel was built of stone in 1836 by Nathan Barlow.

Samuel Potts was probably the first coal operator in New Phila. and the product of his mining was conveyed to Phila. in wagons.

In 1870, there was a coal washery built by P. J. Kelly which made the first shipment of coal in January 1871.

Nov. 1, 1894, the Silver Creek Colliery of the P. & R. C. & I. Company was completed and made its first shipment of coal.

In 1900, the Bell Telephone Company erected its poles, strung its wires and put the service into operation. In 1902, the Telephone Co. was granted a right of way and in the same year it had its lines in operation. The name of the company was "The United Telephone Co."

The first drug store was opened by Dr. J. J. Curran, in the year of 1910.

The first Dental Parlor was opened in the year 1914 by Doctor Edward Flanigan.

A store was opened by Michael Rooney in the year 1848. It specialized in dry goods and clothes for working men.

James Ennis opened a shoe store in the year of 1842, just two years after his immigration to this country.

The Rooney Store

Michael Rooney a native of County Galway, Ireland, was born June 30, 1820. He immigrated to this country in 1845 and settled in the Schuylkill Valley in the Borough of New Phila. Mr. Rooney engaged in mining at Larry Hannon's Patch and also worked for Lawrence Hannon for a period of two years. In 1847, after a saving of many years, he invested in merchandise and shed materials for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad in Cumberland Valley and remained here for a period of two years.

In the meantime, he brought his mother and a niece (a brother's daughter) to this country in the year 1848 and settled in Hannon's Patch. He then returned to New Phila. to resume his business. He married Margaret Reagan in the year of 1850, who came to this country from the County Galway, Ireland. He was married by Father Daniel McGarion of Port Carbon.

In May of 1851, he leased ground from landowners on the location of Valley and Macomb St. Previous to that time, he had already erected a small building in which he sold groceries and other incidentals.

Their first child, Mary, was born Sept. 1, 1851, now Mrs. Mary Langton, a widow.

During the next five years, he remodeled the small house since his business increased in large proportions. Again in ten years he rebuilt his home, and engaged in selling dry goods and selling clothes for the working men who were employed mainly by the following coal operations: Dovey's, E. C. Witcelley, Boyce and Co., and Diamond Coal Co.

His business became so extensive that he had to purchase two large mules and a wagon to convey the goods to Big Vein (now Kaska William), Eagle Hill, Silver Creek, Witfields Patch, and many other coal operations.

He retired from business in 1881 and turned it over to his daughters. Miss Ann Rooney continued business until 1930. Mr. Rooney died in November 1891.

His three daughters now occupy the homestead situated on the corner of Valley and Macomb St.

Those members living in the home at the present time are Miss Ann, Mrs. Mary Rooney Langton, and Miss Bezie with their nephew Langton Slattery, Superintendent of the Lucanna Colliery.

Rishel and Crosby Store

Rishel and Crosby store started about the year 1880 as the Alliance Store on the premises of Levi Miller at the corner of Valley and Water Streets, now the Kenna

Building. This building was taken over by S. B. Briscoe.

On the evening of March 2, 1889, the store and an adjoining building on Valley St. and a row of six houses on Water St. burned down with an estimated loss of twenty-five thousand dollars. Pending the erection of a new building, Mr. Briscoe occupied the store of the Ennis family on Valley St. The following year Mr. Briscoe built the most modern general store in the coal region at number 16 Valley St. and conducted a most successful business until his death.

In the year 1907, Clinton D. Rishel and John P. Crosby of the firm of Rishel and Crosby of Pottsville, purchased the property and business and continued it at the same location until the year 1915, when they transferred their store to Cumbola.

Drug Stores

New Phila. has had only three drug stores. The first was opened by Dr. J. J. Curran, in the year 1910. Patrick Campbell opened one on Valley St. directly across from the Holy Family Church. In recent years, the house and store have been torn down and the ground is now a playground for the children of the Holy Family School.

On Nov. 7, 1923, John Daroshefski opened a drug store in the Kelly property on Valley St. A successful business was carried on for several years. The store was then transferred to the opposite side of the building due to the need of space. The drug store has been very successful under the careful management of Mr. Daroshefski, serving New Phila. and the surrounding towns, in the filling of doctors' prescriptions and carrying a complete line of supplies.

INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES

The men and women of New Philadelphia do not work only in their own town, but many of them travel a few miles to their respective jobs. The collieries stationed in the following places furnish some of the men with work: Kaska William, Lucanna, Locust Summit, St. Nicholas, South Penn, Randolph, Salem Hill and others. The women find occupation in the factories of New Phila., where shirts, dresses and pajamas are made. Some work out of town, mainly in Port Carbon and Pottsville factories. Others are employed in department stores in Pottsville. Of the male population many found themselves without a job since most of them are miners. Such persons occupy their time by bootlegging coal.

Bootlegging Coal

A large majority of the New Philadelphia miners are jobless. Many of them have not worked in one, two, or even five years. Unemployment took away much of their happiness. The men were depressed to see so much coal in the mountains and no work for the miners. They were turned down at one colliery and then another. Many of the mines where they previously had steady work were abandoned. The relief that was distributed to them was not enough to support a family, or pay the rent. It was absolutely necessary to find other means for supporting themselves and their families so the only practical thing left was "bootlegging" coal. The workers banded together in two's and three's to sink their own mines, to get coal for their own personal use and to sell coal which was left.

When working very earnestly, they can remove as much coal as a good sized colliery.

The bootleggers are well organized and it is an interesting sight to watch them while they work at their constructed mine.

The following is a description of a breach hole.... "We stood on the edge of what seemed to be a huge cleft in the earth, the end of which was swallowed in inky blackness. At the top of the hole was a crude homemade windlass. This was made by attaching the frame of an auto wheel to two posts. To the wheel was fastened about fifty feet of strong wire. Suspended from this was a crude homemade wagon called by the bootleggers a 'buggy'. The latter is sent down into the hole on odd wooden rails, and is drawn up again, filled with large lumps of the precious resource—coal....

"Upon request we were taken down a dug-out stairway into the interior of the imitation mine. We were led into a miniature room with floor, walls, and ceiling of shiny black coal. A lone candle sent out its feeble rays and made weird shadows dance around ghost-like on the sides of the tiny room. The forms of men could be discerned in the dim shadows, busily drilling, shoveling, cracking or performing numerous other tasks which the mining of coal requires. Then we were led to the foot of the hole into which we had stared from the outside. Almost perpendicularly it shot upward ending in a circle of light."

Factories

In 1915, Clinton D. Rishel and John P. Crosby opened a shirt factory in New Phila. In January, 1923 they leased the property to Phillips and Jones Corporation who operated it until Dec. 1, 1930. Since that time it has been operated by the New Phila. Shirt Factory under the management of Louis Lipschutz. When running at capacity, the manager employs from 150 to 200 people.

The factory at the south end of town once belonged to the Phillips and Jones Corporation. At first, only shirt sleeves were made. Later pajamas and then collars were made. About eight years ago the Onyx Shirt and Blouse Company purchased the factory; it is now under the management of Mr. Kaatz. There are approximately 100 persons employed at present.

The First C. W. A. Project

The first C. W. A. project ventured in the town was redecorating the interior and exterior of the public school. The surroundings of the building were also improved by various jobs, notably, the removal of humps and the construction of steps at the two main entrances. There were no obstacles to hinder this work and the undertaking of this task was very successful.

The second project attempted was the laying of pipe lines from the corner of Clay and Kimber Streets to the corner of Kimber and Harris Streets. This work also, was a complete success. Pipe lines were also entrenched in Macomb Street, and the whole length of Wiggin Street, as well as Cooper Street.

The greatest undertaking was delayed for some time, when the macadamizing of Clay Street was started. After Clay Street was finished, the C. W. A. plans were well executed in bettering the defects of the town. Although everybody benefited indirectly, those who secured the greatest advantages were those living on the streets that were repaired.

Although the work was constantly being delayed, it was finally completed. Extensive improvements were made in the sanitary conditions of the town as well as in the general appearance of the community.

TRANSPORTATION

When New Philadelphia was first founded, grass grew on the main street. The land from Water St. to the Lithuanian Cemetery was a large grassy field and there were swamps from the present site of Water St. to Pine St.

Before any roads were constructed, timber was floated down the river to Phila.; coal was conveyed to Phila. in wagons until the canal was built in Port Carbon. This aided materially in the transportation of coal from the openings in the valley.

Early wagon roads preceded the old pike, which in turn gave way to the railroads and state highways of the present time.

This section had nothing but wagon roads until the construction of the old Centre Turnpike, and the coming of the railroads, which prevented the building of turnpikes in Schuylkill County.

The old Sunbury road was established in 1770 and ran between Reading and Sunbury; it was scarcely passable except on horseback.

With the exception of two roads, there were, at the time of the construction of the Centre Turnpike, and for many years afterward, scarcely any roads worthy of the name in the county. People traveled over bridle paths, mostly on foot, always taking with them their rifles to be ready for any game they might encounter. In 1829 an Act of Assembly authorized the construction of a state road between Mauch Chunk and Pottsville, which was completed much later.

In 1902, the first electric cars were operated through the town. In 1909 the first street crossings which were of concrete were laid.

Electric lights were first installed in March, 1910.

The houses were numbered and street signs put up in 1914.

The arch over Silver Creek was completed during 1914.

The state highway between Pottsville and Tamaqua was started in 1920 and completed in 1922. Traces of the old stagecoach road can be found where the state highway follows it.

In 1926, Water St. was paved.

Last summer, Clay St. was macadamized under the C. W. A.

The trolley tracks also have been covered in the town and have been entirely removed outside the town.

EDUCATION

The New Philadelphia Public School was erected in 1893, on Quality Hill, which is located on the main street, which is Valley St. The building was a wooden, two-story structure, consisting of six classrooms and accommodating eight grades. There was also a principal's office, a stock room and a large book room which was later constructed into a gymnasium. On the top of the building was a large bell, which brought to school, the pupils, every morning at 8:30 and 9:00 o'clock.

In 1909, an addition of two rooms were built by Chas. Melevage, at the cost of \$5,050.

In 1912, the school became so over-crowded, it was necessary to use the second story of the fire house to accommodate the first and second grades which consisted of 60 pupils. Year by year, the old buildings were becoming less capable of providing for all the attending pupils and it was evident that a larger building was needed.

The plans were completed and in 1926 the new school was erected. For the first few years only the pupils from the third to the eighth

grades attended the new school, since all the rooms were not finished. The old building was left standing until last year. The building (not the lot) was open for bids, and was finally sold to a well known resident of New Phila., Michael Mickosheff, who used the lumber to build a beautiful home in the farming section of Hecla.

The enrollment in 1914 was 154 boys and 175 girls. The enrollment today is 160 pupils.

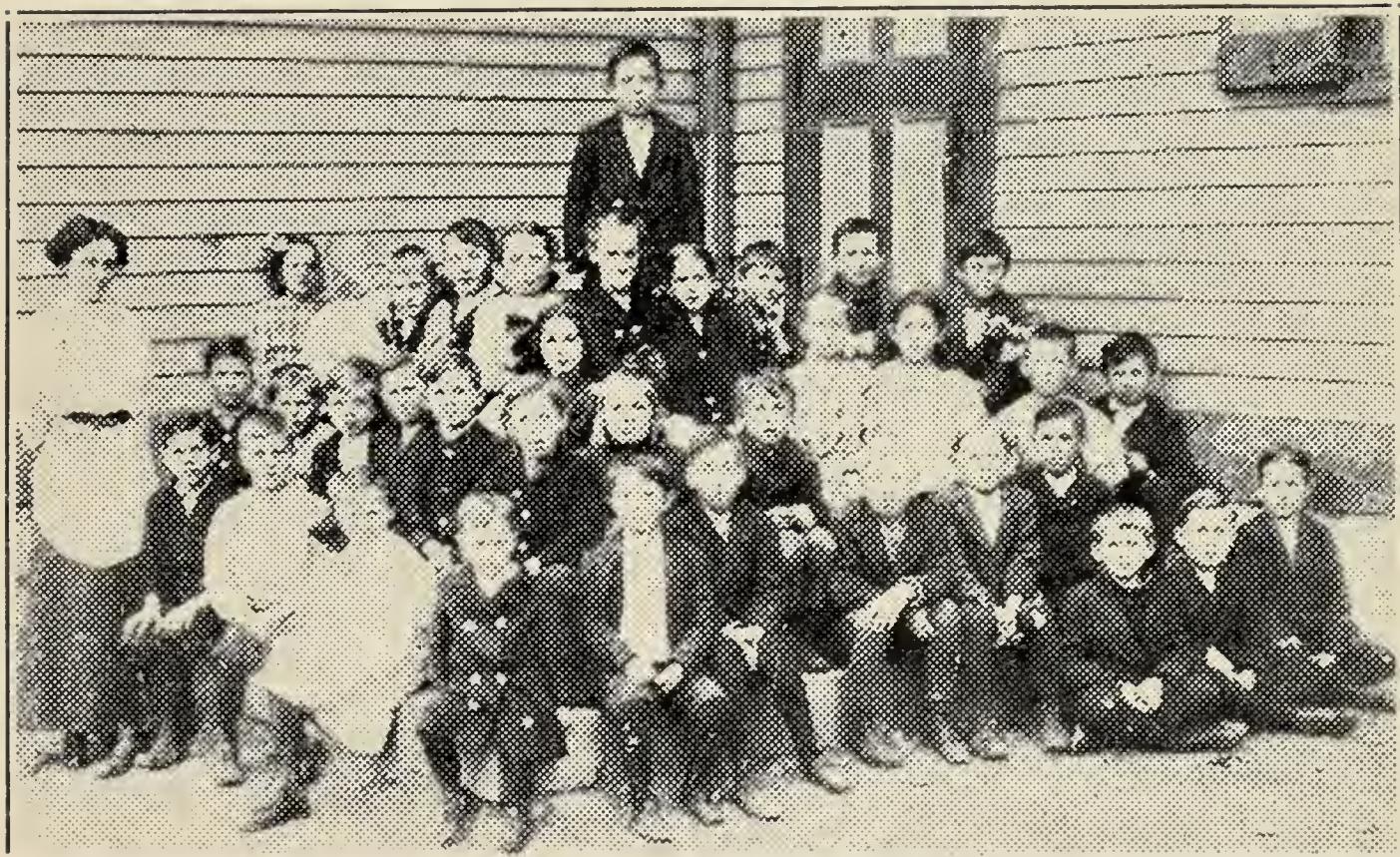
The principals in the public school before 1909 were: Francis Devine, Hugh Feeley, James Butler, Patrick Moore, and Charles Carr.

The teachers in the public school before 1909 were: Nellie Dougherty, Julia Dooley, Mary Dooley, Catherine Connelly, George Melevage, and Mary Whalen.

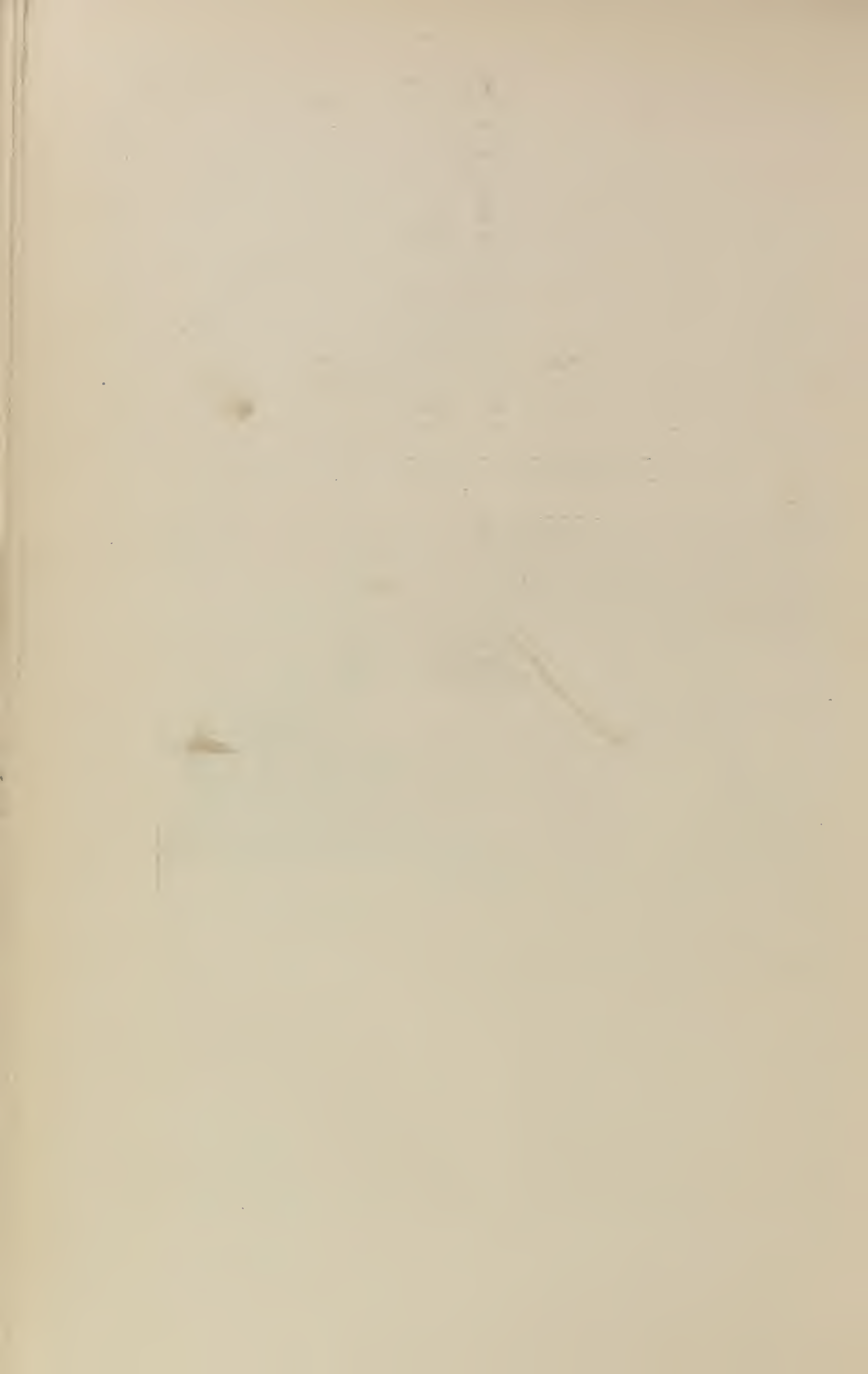
The teachers in the public school in the year 1912 were: Jennie Evans, at present teaching in the Tamaqua Public Schools; Mrs. Anne McGuigan, at present teaching in the Minersville Grammar School; Mame Daley, living in Erie, Pa.; Rose Sharp, living in New Phila.; Catherine Crosby, now Mrs. T. P. Butler, who also lives in New Phila., and Hugh Feeley, former post master, who is also a resident of New Phila.

Several of the pupils who attended the school in 1912 have, in recent years, succeeded in the business world. They are: Jack Schuster (deceased), founder of the Schuster Taxi Co. of Pottsville; Wm. Shaudis, who is employed by the Marks Brothers of Pottsville; Anthony Lucas, owner of the Lucas Garage of New Phila.; Belle Lefkowitz, who assists in the Lefkowitz Store in Pottsville; Helen Dauksis, married to Edward Powell of New Phila., who aids him in his successful meat markets and grocery stores in New Phila. and Tamaqua.

New Philadelphia School Pupils



This is a picture of the New Philadelphia school pupils taught by Miss Catherine Crosby, in the year 1912.



The teachers who taught between 1909-1926 are as follows: Hannah Flanigan, Mary Flanigan, Alice Kelly, Rose Sharp, Catherine Martin, Anna Williams, Laura McQuail, Mae Cody, Agnes Ryan, Margaret Gaughin, Alice Gaughin, Marie Carroll, Marie Radziewicz, Hugh Flanigan, Catherine Hughes and Marie McHale.

The salary of the principal in 1907 was \$75, and in 1909 it was increased to \$125. The teachers received \$60. In 1918 the salary of the principal was still \$125 but the teachers were raised to \$75. The truant officer received \$60 for his services. Again in 1919 the salaries were changed to \$150 for the principal and \$100 for the teachers. The salaries of today are: principal, \$129.24; teachers, first and second grade, \$107.98; third and fourth grades, \$108.73; fifth grade, \$105.92; sixth grade, \$108.28; seventh grade, \$108.73.

The teachers in the public schools this year are: Rose Kennedy, Lucy Doyle, Mary Flanigan, Marie Connelly, John Shelesky, and the principal, Margaret Melevage.

The members of the New Phila. School Board are as follows: Pres., Wm. Lescavage; Vice Pres., Joseph Nawrocki; Secy., James Connelly; Treas., Jos. Snyder; and Jas. Kenna.

Holy Family School

The Holy Family School was built during the coal strike of 1902. As the men of the parish were unemployed, they willingly tendered their services for excavating the land. The material for the foundation was carried from the mountainside in wagons owned by the parishioners.

Father Bernard J. Dever was the officiating pastor at this time.

In the summer of 1902, it was dedicated by Archbishop Ryan, and

there was a very large attendance at the ceremony.

The school has been in charge of the Sisters of Mercy of Wilkes Barre since its opening. There have always been eight grades in the school with four teachers to take charge of the educational work and one music teacher. The present enrollment of the school is 184 pupils, 93 boys and 91 girls.

In January of 1932, the school yard was purchased by the present pastor, Rev. Fr. Francis M. Ward, at a cost of \$1,500. This advantage was sincerely appreciated by the people of the parish because the children previously were in constant danger owing to the considerable traffic on Valley St.

In 1932 Sister Helen Marie, the music teacher, organized an orchestra which was composed of the music pupils of the school. After a year and a half elapsed, a band was organized which was an outstanding but brief success. Since the transfer of Sister Helen Marie, the band was discontinued. However, many of the former members are in the Blythe Twp. Band at the present time.

The Sacred Heart School

The construction of the Sacred Heart School was begun in 1926 by the present pastor of the Sacred Heart Church, the Rev. Fr. S. C. Mazuras. Much credit should be given to the pastor whose persistence and remarkable ability made possible such a beautiful building with every modern convenience.

The building combines both the school and the Nuns' home. The Sacred Heart School contains 10 modern classrooms, eight of which are occupied by grades from 1 to 8. One is used as a social room for the Sacred Heart Catholic Club for Girls, the other as a library. The

school also contains a huge auditorium containing a balcony, equipped with the facilities for movies, which are shown for the purpose of alleviating some of the parish expenses. The auditorium is one of the largest in this region. On the lower floor of the building are the foundations for an excellent gymnasium, locker rooms, shower rooms, and a food laboratory, although owing to insufficient funds, these parts of the building have not been completed.

The actual teaching began in 1928. The school first opened with only four grades, from the first to the fourth; but there was a demand to open the upper grades in the school; consequently in January of the same year, the fifth, sixth and seventh grades were started. Seven of the pupils of the seventh grade in that year, were given an opportunity to take the examinations for entrance into high school, and passed with high averages. The next year an eighth grade was instituted.

The first class, consisting of fourteen pupils was graduated in 1931.

When the school was first opened, there were five nuns, four of whom were teachers and the housekeeper. At the present time, there are ten nuns; nine of them are occupied in teaching.

Attend Blythe H. S.

Owing to the fact that New Philadelphia has no high school of its own, the students from town attend the St. Stephen's High School in Port Carbon, Pottsville High School, and Blythe Township High School.

The majority of the students, however, attend the Blythe Township High School which is situated on

the boundary line between New Phila. and Blythe Township.

The present number of New Phila. students attending Blythe Township High School is 140.

These students contribute considerably to the Blythe High School not only in a scholastic manner, but have also figured widely in athletics.

The past three May Queens of Blythe High came from New Phila.; these girls were selected chiefly for their scholarship, athletic ability, health, character, personality and beauty. The honored girls were: Biruta Waitkunas, Edith Schlack, and Anna Tamulavage.

THE CHURCHES

Holy Family Parish

The Holy Family Parish of New Phila. was founded Nov. 1, 1867. The first pastor was the Rev. Father John H. Laughran. The territory served by the Priests who were in charge of the Holy Family Parish is as follows: On the north, Whitfield's Patch to the stream in the Hollow; on the South, Cumbola, Eagle Hill and Lorraine to the end of Bebelheimer's farm below Lorraine in Blythe Township; on the East, by Lewistown and the villages adjoining North, South, East and West; on the West, Silver Creek, Tucker Hill and Kaska.

The following societies are connected with the Church: The Altar and Rosary Society, the Holy Name Society and The Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality.

The Parish has its own school, taught by the Sisters of Mercy of Wilkes-Barre, Penna.

Of the young men born and reared within and near the boundaries of New Phila., the following were elevated to the dignity of the Holy Priesthood: Rev. Father Jas. A. Holahan and his brother Rev. Father Edw. J. Holahan, born in Middleport; Rev. Father Hugh J. McGettigan and his brother Rev. Father Daniel J. McGettigan, born in Silver Creek; Rev. Father Patrick J. Ryan, born in Tucker Hill, and Rev. Father Daniel J. Feeley, born in New Phila.

At present studying for the Priesthood are three young men of the Parish: Ferdinand Melevage, Thomas Wassell and Andrew J. Feeley.

The present pastor is the Rev. Father Francis M. Ward, who has served the Holy Family Parish for the last twenty-four years, having taken his place by the appointment of the late Archbishop Prendergast on May 11, 1911. At the time of this writing Father Ward is the oldest priest in Schuylkill County. He has been a priest forty-one years, he was ordained in the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul at 18th and Race Street in Philadelphia, by the Most Rev. Archbishop Patrick John Ryan on May 19th, 1894.

Methodist Episcopal Church

The first Church in New Philadelphia was the Methodist Episcopal Church, built in 1849. Rev. Mr. Glenn, who resided at Tamaqua, was the first pastor. The congregation was small as were other denominations in the place, and for a time this building served all who chose to worship in it. Early Methodist preaching was irregular. The first salaried Methodist preacher here was Rev. John Jones. Rev. James Neil, the first operator at Neil's Hill, and Thomas and Miles, two other operators, assumed the chief burden of the preacher's salary for a time.

The first Primitive Methodist preacher who held meetings in New Phila., was Wm. Donaldson, who used to preach in Squire Barlow's stone tavern.

The present pastor of the church is Rev. Guy H. Everly. The congregation numbers 80 at present.

Sacred Heart Church

Prior to the erection of the Lithuanian Church, services were held in a small shack built by able parishioners. Since there was no rectory, the priest, Father Matulaitis, boarded with a parishioner.

The Sacred Heart Lithuanian Church was erected in the year 1901. It was not a very large building, and by the year 1915 it became necessary to build an addition. The church still stands unchanged from that day.

The first priest to officiate was Father Matulaitis. After him came Father Kuminskas, Father Kaulakis, then Father Kuminskas returned and after him Father Matulaitis came for the second time. Next there was Father Dargis, then Father Duriskas, and lastly Father Mazuras. At the present time there are two priests, Father Mazuras and Father Mikshus.

The societies are quite numerous. Four years ago the young men of the parish formed the Sacred Heart Catholic Club, which will be recalled, figured particularly in athletics. This, however, is no longer in existence.

At the present time there are eight societies, all active. They are: The Holy Name Society for men, which has been organized since February of this year; there is also the Rosary and the Order of St. Francis, both active for over two decades; the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary for girls up to fourteen years of age was formed as soon as the church was built. Until 1928, when the St. Casimir Nuns

came to teach the pupils of the newly built Sacred Heart School, the office of President was held by a capable girl, Gertrude Michosheff. After reaching the age of fourteen years, the girls are eligible to become members of the Immaculate Conception Sodality, in which members remain until married. This society was first formed in the year 1933, but was not quite successful. However, a few girls carried it on until February of this year, when a call for new members was made and over 150 girls joined. The society is still growing, and it is believed that it will grow to be one of the largest in this section of Schuylkill County. In October, 1934, an Alumnae was formed and is still active. About four years ago the girls of the parish formed the Sacred Heart Catholic Club for Girls, which still is going on. Plans are being made to form a society of the Rosary for young women. As soon as the plans are completed a call will be made for members. Lastly there is the Lithuanian Roman Catholic Alliance of America. Members pay dues and at death or during sickness an allowance is made to them. The Spiritual Advisor of all societies is Father S. C. Mazuras.

There are three choirs at the present time. The pupils of the Sacred Heart School for the Junior Choir. They are taught under the direction of Professor Joseph Sabaitis and one of the nuns.

The Alumnae choir is composed of twenty-four members.

The officers are: Pres., Helen Bersenavage; Vice-Pres., Mary Gataveskas; Secy., Marie Lescavage; Treas., Alice Sakalauskas.

The Senior Choir, largest of the three, is composed of sixty members.

The officers are: Pres., John Yut-
sus; Vice Pres., George Bagdonis;

Secy., Bertha Pillus; Treas., Alex. Zubris.

Leading soloists: Regina Lescavage, Josephine Elinausky, Mary Rudaitis, Simon Zubris, and John Abromavage.

This choir ranks high among the choirs of Schuylkill County. It has been invited to sing at concerts to be held in Hazleton and Mahanoy City, and has already participated at Shenandoah. Every year on August 15th the members sing at Lakeside Park. To relieve members from their hard, steady practice, socials are held for them in the church basement. To become a member of the Senior Choir, one must be at least 18 years old. A voice test is taken and if passed by the candidate he becomes a member. Dues are paid monthly, and once a year choir members are treated to a party, all expenses are paid with the funds in the treasury.

This choir was formed soon after the church was built. Professor Gudaitis, conductor of the choir, held the position until 1927. Following him Prof. Yanuskevicius took charge; he remained in this position until he resigned it to accept a position at Boston, Mass., to climb higher in the musical world. Prof. J. J. Savaitis was given able assistance in the choirs, and has helped the Senior Choir reach the position it now holds.

Prior to the building of the Sacred Heart School, the church basement was the scene of many activities. Silent movies were shown every Sunday and bazaars were held frequently. Meetings of all societies were held there, and some of them are held there to the present time. However, with the construction of the school, the scenes of these activities has changed from the church basement to the school auditorium.

Every year, on Thanksgiving Day a supper is held followed by a play given by the pupils of the Sacred Heart School, movies and a dance. Beautiful plays directed by the Nuns, are held twice a year by the pupils of the school. In March, 1935, a group of women started a series of card parties.

The Sacred Heart Parish is composed of 500 families.

SPORTS

New Phila. has always been noted for athletics, although such sports as basketball and football were not featured until the last 10 years. Baseball, boxing, and track, however, were always popular here. Interest in baseball began almost as soon as the borough was organized; New Phila. always had an excellent baseball team. Among the old stars in baseball were: James Connelly, Patrick Canfield, Daniel Aunchbach, John Connelly, and Joseph Zubris. Zubris was a great hurler in the minor leagues; he pitched for Hagerstown, Reading and Baltimore. He was getting a chance with the New York Giants when his health failed him and he had to retire from the sport.

A Schuylkill Valley basketball tournament was held in New Phila. in 1924, at Walters' Hall. The teams participating in this league were: Kaska, Cumbola, Middleport, Silver Creek, Brockton, and Port Carbon. Kaska was the winner of the tournament. Many boys from New Phila. have played on Blythe Twp. High School basketball teams; three boys played on the 1931 championship team. They were: Percy Lokitus, Alfred Gates and Francis Boran.

Enthusiasm for football was started by Richard Donald, but it did

not become a permanent sport until Blythe High lead the way. There were many New Phila. boys who played at Blythe High, various colleges and professional teams. Dick Donald played with professional teams and then organized the Holy Family Catholic Club.

Joseph "Wildcat" Flannery, a well known pugilist, was born in New Phila.; he fought some of the best featherweights in the country. He defeated Sammy Mandell of the flyweight division, but this was before Mandell became champion. Flannery fought in all parts of the country and had a splendid record. He is now married and resides with his family in New Phila.

Baseball Champions

New Phila. Tigers were baseball champions of the South Anthracite League; this team was one of the best clubs Schuylkill County has ever had. Many of the players had opportunities with major league teams and some of them made the grade. The members of this outstanding team were: Paul Stone and John Chicko, pitchers; Anthony "Smiler" Sabalosky, 2b; Harry Koerper, ss; Andrew Matlock, 3b; Frank "Knocker" Weldon, Charles Caspar, and Adam Cooper, outfielders; Frank Burke, catcher; and Stanley Griggs, 1b. Griggs was also a football star at Albright College and starred for Coaldale's Big Green Team; he is now coaching a high school team in New York City. Albert Hertz was one of the players during the championship season and was second in batting average. Bill Wassell managed the "champions."

Boxing

In 1927, boxing became one of the major sports in New Phila. Fistic matches were held in Walters' Hall; some of the best boxers in the

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county fought here. Among those who fought were: "Kid" Gleason, "Knocker" Weldon, David Thomas, John Zubris, Joseph Burkosky (deceased), Joseph Flannery, and John Martin, all of New Phila. Some clever boxers from various towns who fought here were: Sailor Freedman, Leon Dorsey, Jack Brazo, George Chipp, and James Bonner.

Edward Norris, a boy who starred in all sports at Blythe is now playing football and baseball at Mt. St. Mary's College in Maryland. The boys who played with Blythe High football championship teams of 1930 and '31 were: Vincent Lescavage, Edw. Norris, Alfred Gates, Jos. Shatus, Francis Boran and Albert Laskus; the latter two also played with Pottsville High School in their senior year.

Leaders In Track

Track was also a leading sport in New Phila. Runners were entered in almost all races and track meets in the county. James Berrang, the best runner of the team, was a 100 yard dash man; he could race the 100 yards in 10 seconds. At one time, he was entered in a meet and before he was on his mark to run the starter began the race. Berrang was two yards behind when the signal was given but passed all the others winning the race by a foot. Berrang is now married and resides with his family in New Phila. Other runners were: Joseph Lokitus, Joe Gleason and Thomas Martin; the latter is now a school director of Blythe Twp.

Holy Family Catholic Club

The members of the Holy Family Catholic Club were the champs of class C football for the years 1931-32. Only 13 points were scored against them by Middleport and Primrose.

The players were as follows: Harry Deem, QB; Daniel Shields, HB; Ronald Richards, FB; Joseph Pretti, HB; Daniel Coyle, RE; William Hill, RT; James Fogarty, RG; Joseph Toomey, C; Francis Shanoskie, LG; Jos. Shaudis, LT; Steven Vardo, LE; Gregory Norris, Coach.

The Holy Family Football Team, Champions of Class C are as follows: Joseph Pretti, Daniel Shields, Harry Deem, Daniel Coyle, Campbell Flood, Joseph Mitskas, Paul Lewis, Jos. Shatus, Wm. McNelis, Merrill Murray, Peter Pupnick, Jos. Toomey, Frank Shenosky, Thos. Fogarty, Jos. Grablusky, Francis Haughney, Chas. Slopkus, John Bernitsky, John Stapleton, Thos. O'Neil, Ronald Richards, and Don O'Leary.

Sacred Heart Catholic Club, Class B football champions 1930, were as follows: Alfred Urban, Coach; John Shelesky, Manager; Players — Stiney Socks, Daniel Laurinitus, Michael Carbosky, Alexis Bernitsky, "Ringer" Kovich, John Savitsky, Paul Stonius, Jos. Stone, Red Jones, Michael Kurek, Andrew Devine, Michael Matalavage, Anthony Dauchus, Ralph Laurinitus, Albert Manisky, Frank Lutsky, Chas. Grigatias, Adam Gustus, "Red" McDonald, Chas. Spokas, Jos. "Lester" Laskus.

Some of the teams which opposed the Sacred Heart Club were: Frackville, Minersville (St. Francis), Minersville (St. Vincent), St. Clair, Primrose, Hamburg, Reading, Williamstown, Mt. Carmel, Middleport, Lansford, Coaldale, Mahanoy City and Summit Hill.

New Phila. Pirates, a baseball team, had the following members: Walter Naurocki, Patrick Canfield, Robert McGowan, Thos. Masonis, Lawrence Keating, Jos. Muck, Manager Jimmy Gallagher, Jas. McGow-

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an, Jas. McDonald, John McGarrity, Geo. Wargo, Paul Stone, and Charley Supreme, Anthony Sabolosky, Edward Zencosky, Manager Wm. Wassell, Andrew Matlock, Fudge, Jr., Mascot, Anthony Griggs, "Chicko" Apshagas, Joseph Muck, Adam Cooper, Paul Stone, Max Domonski, Andrew Matlock, Joseph Socks, Asst. Manager, "Knocker" Weldon, Stanley Griggs, John Conroy, "Scaldy" Weldon, Chas. Casper.

This team won the championship in South Anthracite League in 1925-26, failing to win third consecutive pennant in 1927 by losing last three games (after 13 game winning streak) to Cressona and St. Clair by the scores of 2-1, 6-5, and 4-3.

Some of the teams which opposed the league were: New Phila., Wm. Wassel, Mgr.; Cressona, Sam Huff, Mgr.; St. Clair, Ray Leidich, Mgr.; Cumbola, John Kehlor, Mgr.; Heckscherville, Jim McDonald, Mgr.; Tamaqua, Glick, Mgr.; Minersville, Al. Maurer, Mgr.; Middleport, McGinley, Mgr.

The team was organized from 1920 to 1932.

New Phila. Baseball Champions 1934 in the Schuylkill Valley League were as follows: Manager, Walter Norwich; Players—Thos. Canfield; Campbell Flood, Chas. Slopkus, Geo. Zerumsky, Alphonse Zerumsky, John Zerumsky, Jos. Pretti, Michael Shields, Victor Zimmers, John Feeley, Jerome McNelis, Jos. Asphagas, Johnny Boho. Opposing teams—Middleport, New Phila., MaryD, Brockton, Tamaqua, Tuscarora.

The Sacred Heart Basketball Team consists of Manager John Shelesky; Players—Vincent Poplosky, John Bender, John Savitsky, Stiney Socks, Daniel Laurinaitis, Andrew Galasky, Joseph Shatus.

The Girls Basketball Team: Players, Helen Dauchus, Helen Poplosky, Helen Shelavage, Julia Zubris, Mary Pierce, Anna Keminsky.

New Phila. has always been well represented in Blythe Township High School girls basketball team. The girls from New Phila. who played on Blythe High championship team of 1934-35 are: Catherine Butler, Julia Tamulavage, Loretta Skinder, Blanche Zembas, Frances Butler, Mary Feeley, Virginia Flanagan.

Joe Zubris

There is plenty of color and the stage scenery is made to order for the beginning of Joe Zubris' professional baseball career. He first began playing baseball with a team formed in the breaker in which he worked.

When nineteen years old, he was given the opportunity of pitching for the coal miners against the Reading Keys of the International League. Spencer Abbott was managing the Keys at that time. Zubris had twelve strikeouts in that game and afterwards was signed up to play with the Keys.

However, he pitched only a few games for the Keys in 1924 and was transferred to Hagerstown, Md., in 1925. He became very popular in the Blue Ridge League.

While at Hagerstown, Joe established several remarkable records. He held the strikeout record of the league, fanning 223 men in one season, beating Lefty Grove's record of 211 men. Joe also acquired the unique achievement of striking out 12 men consecutively. He won 15 games in succession for Hagerstown; incidentally, this record still stands in the Blue Ridge League. In 1926 he returned to Reading and

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went to Newark with the transfer of the franchise.

While with Newark in 1927, Joe was one of the most popular players in the League. Later in the season, his "twirling" became so skillful that he was optioned to the New York Giants of the National League.

Zubris remained with Newark for three seasons. During that time he was a first string player.

In 1928 when Walter Johnson was manager of the Newark Bears, Joe began with the brightest of prospects, but for some unaccountable reason could not make the grade.

The "slowing up" caused him to be transferred to the New Haven Club of the Eastern League at mid-season.

At New Haven he won eleven games successively and seemed certain to be recalled, but he was stricken by illness.

After his recovery, he was transferred to the New York-Pennsylvania League, But an injury ended his career there. He now resides at New Phila.

Daniel Laurinaitis

Daniel Laurinaitis, another youthful fighter of today, has a wonderful record. His record begins with amateur fighting in this vicinity, which first began at the White City Park (formerly Schuylkill Park) in the summer of 1926. His record is as follows:

White City Park, 1926, one K. O., one draw; Charlton Hall, Pottsville, five K. O.'s; White City Park, 1927, five decisions, two K. O.'s; Lakewood Park, 1927, three decisions, two K. O.'s, one draw; Ashland, 1927, one draw; New Phila., 1927, one decision, one K. O.; Williamstown, one decision, four K. O.'s; Hazleton, 1928, five decisions, two

K. O.'s; Allentown, 1928, one decision, one draw.

His total fights were: 16 decisions, 17 K. O.'s and four draws, coming to a sum of 37 fights as an amateur fighter.

His professional fights were as follows:

Coaldale, 1928, one K. O.; Lakewood Park, 1929, one K. O.; Shenandoah, 1929, one decision.

He then discontinued boxing until 1932. In 1933, he staged a comeback at White City Park. At present, he is a miner.

Silver Creek State Bank

Silver Creek State Bank was organized by a group of business men in the Schuylkill Valley, and it received its charter in 1918. It was opened for business on Mar. 1, 1919, with a stock of \$50,000, and a surplus of \$5,000. The bank prospered and became one of the leading banks in the county; it has all modern facilities. The first president of the bank was Dr. Chas. W. Bankes, of Middleport, and the first vice-president was Wm. Walters, of New Phila. Dr. Bankes is still president, but Dr. N. H. Stein, of New Phila., succeeded Mr. Walters', who died.

The ground where the bank now stands was owned by Wm. Walters, who sold it to the bank for \$1.00. The officers of the bank are: Chas. Eberle, cashier; Chas. W. Bankes, pres., N. H. Stein, vice-pres. The directors are: N. H. Kunkle, Stanley Bulota, J. Nelson Bassler, Harry J. Bassler, Dr. J. H. Carroll, Robt. E. Davidson, John Cramer, E. F. Kunkle, Pius J. Nirosky and Daniel I. Slattery. When the bank first opened for business there were three employes, now there are five. The assistants to Cashier Eberle are: Wm. Dooley, John Connelly,

Pauline Griggs and Josephine Malone.

New Phila. Band

For many years New Phila. tried to organize a band of its own. All their previous efforts were, however, rewarded in the year 1933. John Wassell, the well known trumpet artist of the county, called for volunteers. At first, his attempts were futile. Weeks later, some of the local high school boys responded to this call, and offered their services. Together with the men of the town and high school boys, there were approximately 20 in the band.

The first problem that confronted them was the furnishing of instruments. The members lacked the funds, since they were just organized; consequently the committee decided to raise money by arranging some social functions.

First, a block party was held on the corner of Valley and Water Sts. This was a success, and helped considerably in obtaining some of the money needed to purchase the instruments. Since more money was necessary than that which had been collected from the block party, the members decided to conduct a dance, which was held in the Sacred Heart Hall. Later a picnic was held on Walter's Hill, and last, but not least, some of the members who had instruments, began serenading the residents of the town. Finally, through all their endeavors, the members succeeded in collecting enough money to buy the needed instruments.

Most of the members had but little knowledge of music. However, through the earnest help and direction of Mr. Minnick, of Tremont, and the assistance of John

Wassell, the trumpet artist, they became very skillful musicians.

At the present time, the band has another problem confronting it. The members, incidentally, are very anxious to obtain uniforms. The last social activity which was held in order to obtain enough funds was a dance; this was a great success financially. The members are planning other functions in the near future and hope to have their uniform outfit complete this year.

Since 1933 there has been a great increase in the number of band members.

The following are the present members: John Wassell, Thomas Wassell, Frank Spokas, Edward Savitsky, John Poplosky, John Lambert, Jos. Poplosky, Adam Gustus, Daniel Woods, Jos. Burnakus, Jos. Bursanavage, Ed. Wassell, Walter Simon, John Nortavage, Anthony Ocavage, Edward Shelesky, George Shelesky, Julian Noravage, Edward Matalavage, Charles Slopkus, Simon Zubris, George Vanagaitis, Joseph Stenulis, Leo Shaudis, Vincent Dumchis and John Valinsky. Director, Mr. Minnick, Tremont.

The following persons hold offices in the organization: Pres., John Wassell; vice pres., Anthony Wassell; treas., Ernest Waitikunas; secy., Charles Slopkus.

Several members were appointed to take care of the instruments, and they are known as the "Band Trustees." The following were appointed: Daniel Woods, Jos. Burnakus and Adam Gustus.

New Phila. Fire Company

June 6th, 1904, the Good Will Hose Co. was organized with the following officers: Pres., Jos. Bendrick; vice pres., Thos. Phillips; recording secy., Hugh A. Feeley; financial secy., Michael Styles; trustees, Patrick F. Kenna, Edward J.

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Flanagan, James Kenna; treas., Michael McGovern; fire chief, John Fogarty; asst. fire chief, George Litvann.

In 1922 the fire company was re-organized and given the name, "The Good Intent Fire Co."

Up to 1924 the fire company had two two-wheel carts which the members used instead of a fire truck. At that time nearly everyone had a team of horses; consequently when there was a fire, the owner of the team which got to the fire house first received five dollars for his services.

In 1924 the fire company purchased a new fire truck which is used at the present time. The officers in charge at the present time are: Pres., Thomas Feeley; recording secy., Walter Leonard; financial secy., Wm. Lynaugh; treas., Joseph Kolessar; auditors, Jos. Spotts, Zach Ansbach, John Fogarty; chief engineers, Anthony Lucas, Anthony J. Ruczko, Stanley Batter and John Yenelavage; fire chief, Patrick J. Kelly; foreman, John Flanigan.

The company organized a Fireman's Relief Association and those in charge are: Pres., Patrick O'Neil; secy., Stanley J. Schultz; treas., Anthony J. Lucas; trustees, John Fogarty, Thos. Feeley, Jos. Kolessar, Andrew Rowan, Jos. Spotts.

The Post Office

The Postmistress in the year of 1914, was Miss Sarah Ann Williams who was succeeded in the year of 1915, by P. S. Canfield; he was appointed March 8, 1915, by President Woodrow Wilson. Succeeding P. S. Canfield was Hugh Feeley and Katie Feeley. They served until 1934 when M. J. V. Kelly was appointed postmaster and is serving at the present time.

Civil War Records

On April 30, 1861, a company was organized for service in the Civil

War, with the following officers: Captain, Wm. Winlack; First Lieut., Patrick McQuail; Second Lieut., Larry Ennis; First Sergt., Wm. Culen, and was known as Winlack's Artillery Company E, 16th Regiment. They enlisted for three months, and were assigned to guard railroads and saw no active service. After the expiration of their first enlistment a great many of them re-enlisted and saw active service.

The following are the World War Veterans of New Phila.: Charles J. Shaudist, Jos. Apshagus*, Geo. Stenulist, Casimir Gustist, Peter Yousavage†, Frank Lutcauskast, Robert Snyder†, Walter J. Stutz, Frank Yourkacliurs, John Nawrocki, Stanley Jogius*, Michael Junior*, Edward Powell, John Zerdy, Jas. Flannery*, Jos. Flannery, John Egan, George Skripko, Anthony Flannery, Hugh Flannery, Hugh Woods, Martin King, Bill Yurgalavage, Wm. Flanigan, Michael McGovern, John Dooley, John Campbell, John Carlin, Geo. Elinausky, Mr. Krauchunis, Wm. Doyle, Dr. P. C. Boord, Edw. Rice, Raymond Drivas, John Drutelis, Joseph Wasell, Wm. Nork, Peter Raudonaitis, Chas. Gustust†, Jos. Petrosky†, Peter Yasavage†, Chas. Elenausky†, Adam Gustus, Geo. Minrod, Geo. Selesky*, Albert Schockway, Edw. Spotts, Edw. Stutz, Hugh Feeley, John Coakley, Jas. Colong, Wm. Clemens, Wm. Reagan, Simon Flood, Joe Gredesky, Wm. Bagdonas, Stanley Adamcavage†, Miles Finley†, Michael Finley†, Peter Connel*, Michael Stenulis, Jos. J. Suzedalis, Walter Simmons, Simon Dranginis, Peter Stenulis, John Stemler†, Samuel Shoemos, Jos. Wassel, Vincent Doyle, Alfred Burke, Stanley Schultz, Michael McAllister†, John York†, Peter Trinur, Bernard Co-

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gan, Jos. Whalen, Frank Dolan, Michael Martin, John Benedict, Francis A. Collier†, Harry J. Elliot, Edw. V. Boyle, Neil Breslin, Jerry Campbell, R. J. Yeager, Harry Langton, Peter Marchetti*, Augustus Tome*, John Toomey, Joseph L. Doooley, Michael O'Hare, Wm. O'Connell, Thomas Martin, James Boyle, Bernard Boyle, Daniel McDonald, Michael Filtosh, Ralph Buehler.

†—Died natural death.

*—Killed in action.

PROMINENT RESIDENTS

Cornelius B. Walters, a prominent business man of New Phila., was born July 1, 1889, and is the son of Mr. and the late Wm. H. Walters. He was educated in the New Phila. Public School, Port Carbon High School, and was a student at the University of Pennsylvania. After attending college he worked as a laborer in the Silver Creek Colliery.

Mr. Walters began his business career selling Davis and Gray cars in a two-car garage on Lombard St. in the year 1922. Two years later, he built a garage on Valley St. at the foot of what is known as "Walter's Hill."

Mr. Walters ran for Legislator in 1926 but was defeated. He served as auditor of New Phila. for twelve years. At the present time he is serving his second term as Justice of the Peace which term expires the first Monday of December, 1940.

Mr. Walters married Sarah A. Zimmerman on June 14, 1911. He is the father of two children, Wm. H. and Emma. The latter is a graduate of Blythe Township High School and of Beaver College from which she was graduated in 1934. She will be married to Lt. Wm. V. Martz at West Point on her parent's

24th wedding anniversary which will occur June 14th of this year.

Dr. E. A. Flanigan

Doctor E. A. Flanigan, D. D. S., was born in New Phila. He received his early education in the New Phila. Public Schools; was graduated from Mt. St. Mary's at Emmitsburg in 1908, and spent the next year at the Bethlehem Preparatory School. He was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Dental School in 1913 and began practicing dentistry in New Phila. in 1914. He also has an office in the Schuylkill Trust Building in Pottsville. Dr. Flanigan is one of the most highly esteemed residents and has taken keen interest in all the activities of the community.

Dr. C. A. Zerdy

Doctor C. A. Zerdy, D. D. S., was born here in 1906. He attended the Port Carbon High School for three years and in 1924 he was graduated from Pottsville High School where he spent his senior year.

He attended the University of Maryland and the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery, Maryland, graduating in the year 1928. In the fall of the same year he opened an office in the Peoples Trust Building, Tamaqua, and began practicing dentistry. Soon after he opened an office at the home of his parents in New Phila.

At present, he and his wife reside in Port Carbon. He is a member of the "Eagles" organization.

Dr. P. C. Boord

Dr. P. C. Boord, M. D., was born in Uniontown Pa. He was graduated from Uniontown High School in 1907, and attended Bucknell University during 1907-1908. In the fall of 1908 he entered Jefferson Medical College where he was graduated in 1912. He served one year as an in-

terne at the Pottsville Hospital. After finishing his internship, he practiced medicine one year in Mahanoy City and three years in MaryD. In 1917 he came to New Philadelphia with his wife and son, Paul, and a few years later built a beautiful home on the corner of Water and Kimber Streets, where he still has his office.

Anthony Lucas

Anthony Lucas, another popular business man, began his career as a repair man in 1924; he now conducts an efficient garage.

A. J. Zalonis

A. J. Zalonis came to New Philadelphia about twenty years ago and has since engaged successfully in the undertaking business here. His son, Anthony, assists him in his work. He lives with his family in a beautiful home on Valley Street.

John E. Schwab, Jr.

John E. Schwab, Jr., was born in Shenandoah, the son of Mr. and the late Mrs. J. E. Schwab, Sr., he engaged in the undertaking business with his father, one of the first funeral directors in Shenandoah. Attended the Shenandoah public schools, and graduating in 1916, also Eckles School of Embalming, Phila.

Dr. N. H. Stein

Dr. N. H. Stein, M. D., was born in Tamaqua. He finished the Lewistown grade schools and then attended Kutztown Normal School finishing in 1898. He taught for five

years, two years in Blythe Township and three years in East Brunswick Township. In 1900 he attended the University of Pennsylvania and was graduated from the Medical School in 1904.

He was an interne in Price's Private Hospital in Phila., practiced medicine for several years in Middleport, came to New Phila. in 1913, where he is now residing on Valley and Clay Streets. Dr. Stein is one of New Philadelphia's outstanding residents and has contributed considerably in various fields to the community.

Anthony Savage

Anthony Savage was born 33 years ago of Lithuanian parentage. He was unmarried, and lived with his mother on Water Street in New Philadelphia, where they conducted a small store. He was elected Chief Burgess of New Phila. in November of the year 1933, and was the youngest man ever to hold the position in the borough. He was only in office 16 months, when his death, which occurred on March 19, 1935, cut short his promising career. Mr. Savage had the largest funeral New Philadelphia has ever beheld; people of all classes and nationalities formed the procession. Mr. Savage leaves to survive him his mother, Mrs. Gertrude Savage, and one brother, who lives in California. He was succeeded to his office by Wm. Wassell.

History of Middleport Borough

(From "Pottsville Republican"-*"Morning Paper,"* April 25-30, 1935)

Foreword by the Middleport committee on history.

"In undertaking the preparation of this work we have been influenced by our devotion to our community. It is our hope that this contribution may be of interest to the people and may prove a pleasant review to those who already know the history. It is our earnest desire, furthermore, to accomplish our purpose of portraying the life of our community and to give to all who read a glimpse of our advancement.

"It is with great pleasure that we acknowledge the helpfulness of the brief survey of the town's progress written by the history committee as well as the cooperation of many Middleport citizens who have contributed to the success of the work.

"The history was compiled by the following committee: Mildred Brown, Alfred Drabnis, Rose Farrell, Margaret Ziegler, Gladys John, John Niadna and Martha Roman, under the supervision of Miss Julia C. Murray, Social Studies Department, Blythe Township High School."

Middleport is situated in the beautiful Schuylkill Valley, nestling between the Broad Mountains on the north, and the Sharp Mountains on the South. It is in the richest virgin coal measures of the anthracite regions. Its surrounding hills are noted for the delicate arbutus, the beautiful rhododendrons in their glorious colors, and the rich and varied colors of the foliage of the trees in the fall of the year. Most of the great trees of pine, birch, chestnut, hemlock and spruce that once formed the forest of the "Great Pine Swamp" (Schuylkill Valley) have responded to the ax-man's call. The woods are also very rich in Indian lore, and were frequented, before the advent of the white man, by the Tuscarora Indians, and other tribes that inhabited the Schuylkill Valley, or came into it on hunting expeditions.

Tradition has it that as early as 1815, upon the site of Middleport,

lived a lone settler by the name of Jacob Schaff. However, the town was not laid out until 1828, and building was not commenced until the following year. The tract of land upon which Middleport is located was known as the Stahl tract of 1,007 acres, originally owned by Jacob Stahl. Upon this tract, Mr. Stahl and his three sons, Peter, Jacob, Jr., and Adam, opened some coal operations, and erected a saw-mill and a grist-mill. In 1828, Samuel Huntzinger, Jacob Huntzinger and John Schall, of Orwigsburg and Burd Patterson, of Montgomery Co., came in possession of a portion of the Stahl tract. Jacob Huntzinger made considerable improvements to the saw-mill and the grist-mill which had been erected by the Stahls, and both became valuable industries to the community. A man by the name of Rauch became a business partner of Mr. Huntzinger, and building lots were offered for sale. In March, 1830,

there were only two houses in the settlement, and by the spring of 1831, the town had eight houses, one of them a store, kept by Jacob Huntzinger, and another, a hotel, by Geo. Kershner. Furgeson and Jones opened the second store.

The town was called Middleport because it was midway between Port Carbon on the west and Tuscarora on the east. About the time of the founding of Middleport, an act was passed by the State Legislature granting an appropriation of \$2,000 for the building of a state road from Orwigsburg to Wilkes-Barre, through the Stahl tract, making Middleport a point on the proposed road. Only a portion of this money was available for building the road, and it was built only to the border of the county in the Catawissa Valley. This highway proved of great value to the new town, opening direct communication with the County Seat.

In 1831, Jacob Stahl sold land for the cemeteries connected with the Lutheran and Presbyterian Church organizations. In 1852, the Presbyterians erected a stone church, but subsequently sold the property to the Lutherans, who continued to hold services.

In 1845 the population was 271, made up entirely of laborers, miners and mechanics, and at that time there were three stores and two taverns.

Incorporation of Borough

The Borough of Middleport was incorporated Apr. 14, 1859, and the first election of officers was held Apr. 30, 1859, resulting as follows:

Council: Geo. Barnhart, pres.; Solomon Shellhammer, Jos. Miller, Wm. Wall, Adam Greenawalt, Chas. Bensinger, chief burgess; John Jones, Jr., town clerk; B. B. Schuck,

treas., and John R. Porter, justice of the peace.

Auditors: Geo. L. Medler, Robt. M. Huntzinger and Ezra A. Kleckner. Jos. Balliot, assessor; Wm. Wall and John A. Kleckner, asst. assessors; Moritz Heller, judge of election; Martin Bensinger and Patrick McArdle, inspectors; Thos. Jennings, high constable.

School directors: Philip Breen, John Bechtel, Peter Keifaber, Jas. McGacy, Elias K. Webber, Daniel Rowdenbusch.

The population of the borough in 1870 was 377. There were two stores, those of Wm. Bassler and Mary Miller, and two taverns. Eli T. Miller's steam saw-mill was built about 1870. The population of the borough in 1900 was 540. Adam Stahl was the first settler on the village site of Middleport, and members of his family were prominent land owners in that locality for many years.

In the early fall of 1933, due to a very heavy rain which continued for several days, the Sch. River rose high above the stone walls located on both sides of the river. The homes nearby were endangered.

People were unable to attend services at the Methodist Church, since the water was high above the steps. The water went down after a time, and after a little labor, everything was back to normal again, with little damage.

The census of 1930 gives the population of Middleport as 1,225. The town has paved streets, railroad connections with Pottsville and Tamaqua. The electricity for street lighting and domestic use is furnished by the Penna. Power & Light Co., and the water supply by the Silver Creek Water Co. The town has an excellent Council,

which is continually making improvements, thus making Middleport an ideal small town in which to live.

C. W. A. Projects

In the fall of 1933, the C. W. A., which was an active agency of the government, was willing to supply funds for projects of a worth-while and constructive nature.

Tentative plans for the construction of a sewage system were drawn up by the Council. Estimates of labor, materials, etc., were made by the Council. The plans were submitted to the Pottsville office, which gave an engineer, who made an excellent survey of the town. The project was approved, and in the late fall, work was started. The total expenditures amounted to \$19,611, with an extra amount of \$6,692.25, contributed to the project by the local community. Edw. Bubel was put in complete charge of the job.

The public school building was improved greatly. A stone wall was built around the building, an electric lighting system was installed, and the inside, as well as the outside, was painted.

Another C. W. A. project was the channeling of the creek (which was once a canal meant to transport coal, but did not materialize). Trees were uprooted and the new course for the creek dug. The work continued throughout the winter, and employed at least 200 men of both the unskilled and the skilled classes.

Some other small odd jobs were also accomplished by the C. W. A. workers.

INDUSTRIES OF MIDDLEPORT

Among the industries of the past, the most important were the col-

lieries. The first colliery was operated by Mr. Palm, who resided where the Russek home is now located. Mr. Palm, after selling his mines to the Holshon & Kennedy mining corporation, established the now widely known Palm Body Works in Reading. The Palm mine was located at Milford, locally known as Coal Hill.

The Winlack Mining Co. operated a small colliery and saw-mill in the vicinity of the Tckash residence. This enterprise failed because of the lack of transportation facilities. The Delaney Coal Co. searched for coal at Rocktown, but failed to develop any of the veins. Their holdings were later sold to the Hudson Coal Co. This land was leased by the Phillips Coal Co., which built a breaker and operated for 25 years, employing about 150 men continually during that period. This company also built an ice house, and sold the first ice in Middleport. Another coal operator was John Stevens, who also served as the first undertaker in Middleport. He made his own coffins from pine boards, and used the waste timber for mine props and breaker repairs. Among the early coal operators of whom little is known, due to the fact that they only opened drifts to sell coal locally were: Barnhart, Reynolds, Colley and Oliver; Lawrence, Connelly and Jennings; Kestenbach, Bassler, Hebllich and Mohrbach.

The first store of any kind was the butcher shop of Fred John, who came to Middleport from Germany. Mr. Dietrich took over the butcher shop upon the retirement of Mr. John. The present town butcher shop is housed in the Kubilis & Pitkus grocery and general store.

Dave Ritter's general store, which was on the Hermann lot, Wm. Bassler's general store, Kissinger & Yost general store, Mrs. Mary Perrett and Mrs. Nellie Higgins' general store were among the important business establishments of the past.

The present merchants are Bassler & Bros. general store; Kubilis & Pitkus general store; McGinley's general store and news stand. Among the factories located in Middleport were the Birch factory of Seidel Stein, the saw-mill of Eli Miller, the cigar factory of Fred Ditchey, the shirt factories of Earl Baum and Phillips & Jones.

The Earl Baum factory was located at Second St. Later, with the transfer of ownership, it became the Phillips & Jones factory. In the early part of 1924, the factory discontinued operation, and became the P. O. S. of A. Hall, which now exists and is used for various forms of public activities.

The shirt factory, which is located on Main St., was owned by the Phillips & Jones Corporation. Later, it was sold to a New York manufacturer, but its operation was discontinued the early part of 1934.

Phillip's Colliery constructed a large building on the south end of Middleport Borough in 1907. Fred John leased the dam and building for the purpose of storing ice. J. S. Lauk took over the lease about 1929 and continued the ice business.

Seidel Stein built a birch foundry about 1861, at the north end of Middleport. It manufactured paints for dyeing purposes, and the foundry was run by water power. In 1891, Fred John, Sr., bought the foundry and transformed it into a slaughter house, with all the conveniences of those days. The building still stands, and has been used as a stable for several years.

Eli T. Miller built a saw-mill, operated by water power, where he sawed the lumber used to build homes for the early settlers. The mill was located on the east end of Middleport, and the remains of the breast of the mill dam were taken away by the C. W. A. workers in 1933.

Frederick Ditchey was not only a great musician, but he also managed and operated a cigar factory successfully, known to many old residents.

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

The religious activities of the Borough of Middleport are centered in the following churches:

The St. Paul's Lutheran Church was built in 1848. It was purchased from the Presbyterians. Rev. Glena was the first pastor. The basement consisted of three rooms, which served as living quarters for the pastor and his family. Later, the partitions were removed, and an efficient heating system was installed. There was much improvement, including a pipe organ, which added greatly to the attractiveness of the church. The Rev. C. W. Eberwein is the present pastor, and has served the church for the past 40 years. Mrs. Levi Ruch was the first organist of the church. Wilmon Bassler Ruch is the present organist. The St. Paul's Lutheran Chapel was built upon land bought from Jacob Stahl in 1821. Part of the land was used as a burial ground. The cemetery lies outside of the borough, and was recently improved and a new fence built around it.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was built in 1912. The money required to build this church was borrowed from the Board of Missions and Extension Funds of the

1891 Class in the Middleport School



Here we find the 1891 class of the Middleport school. The teachers at that time were Samuel Major and Miss Ellen McNamara. In this class were many boys and girls who have since become prominent citizens of Middleport and other towns and cities.

The names of the pupils shown above are as follows: L. Dietrich, Jas. McDonald, Wm. Mohrbach, Chas. Johns, Claude Bankes, Irene Kennedy, Pearl Basler, Lena Connelly, Maude Jennings, Edw. Holahan, Minnie Sherman, John Connelly, Henry Fleigle, Mabel Ditchey, Irene Brachman, Wm. Brachman, John Holahan, Clara Gerber, Theo. Dietrich, Lewis Derr, Matthew Holohan, Ella Holohan, Mary Heblich, Katie Walsh, Martha Sherman, Nelson Sherman, Bertha Callaway, Nelson Basler, John Walsh, John Linkhorst, Harry Hiney, Eli Basler, G. Linkhorst, Chas. Pfeifer, Jas. Holahan, Harry Mohrbach, Mary Stephens, Wm. Springer, Harry Johns, Lillian Holahan, John Mohrbach, Dan Holahan, Dora Connelly, Lizzie Sherman, Ida Jennings.

church. Some money also was contributed by the people of Middleport and the nearby towns. The Rev. McConaghy was the first pastor, and Miss Emma Stevens the first organist. Paul Swank is now in charge of this church, under the direction of Rev. H. E. Meyers, of Tamaqua, in whose charge the church is located. Mrs. Rhoda Schoffner is the present organist. The church was painted, inside and out, a few years ago by the men of the congregation, during idle time at the colliery.

The Saint Joseph's Polish National Church was organized in the early winter of 1923, and the church building was erected in 1924. The organizing priest was the Rev. Father K. Klos. The first resident priest was the Rev. Joseph Bezowski and the present pastor is the Rev. Father Clement A. Sionkiewicz. The priest of this congregation is the only resident clergyman in Middleport. The church is very beautiful in appearance and the parsonage which is next to it was just recently built to replace the old one which burned down in 1933.

The Saint Mary's Greek Catholic Church which stands on the road to Kaska was formerly the old school house. The congregation purchased the building from the school board in 1910, and converted it into a church. The people held their first service in that year with the Rev. Fakula as their first pastor. Rev. Melonich is the present pastor.

EDUCATION

The first educational center of Middleport was a log school house located near the eastern line of the borough in the proximity of the Lutheran Cemetery. The first school master was Mr. Nolan, popularly

known as Master Nolan, due to his severity with the pupils.

The first school house within the borough limits of Middleport was built in 1860, and was located on the road to Kaska. The teacher at that time was Mr. Urban.

In 1891 Samuel Major and Miss Ellen McNamara were teachers, both being town residents. Mr. Major conducted night school for a time, giving the boys and girls who worked an opportunity to receive some education. In his later years, his wife helped him with his classes.

At this time the blackboards were made of smooth boards, painted black, and stood on two legs.

Several years afterwards, Mr. Motz was principal. He was a well known and respected resident. Miss Kathryn Thomas, now Mrs. C. W. Bankes, also taught in this school.

In 1909, due to the growth of the borough and the necessity for more room in the school, a new building was erected. It is used at the present time and is conveniently located in the center of the borough.

In 1909, at the time of the building of the school house, the school directors were as follows: Jacob Hartz, president; Peter Wagner, treasurer; Bernard McArdle, secretary; John Brachman and John Callaway. The teachers at that time were: P. J. Canfield, principal; Emma Stephens, Agnes Keith, Mary Gallagher and Agnes McGee.

At this time each pupil received a slate and slate pencil which served instead of a tablet and pencil used today. Slate pencils were distributed every Monday morning.

In 1910, the Middleport School Board sold the old school to the Saint Mary's Greek Catholic parish, who converted it into their church and still use it as a place of worship.

In 1931, a fire escape was added to the school as a means of safeguarding the children.

In the fall of 1933 the C. W. A. made many improvements on the building, making it a very pleasant and cheerful place for the pupils to work.

Every morning of the school week the school bell sends forth its call at 8:45 and 9 o'clock which brings pupils from all parts of the town to begin their day's work.

Plays are presented by the students of the various classrooms and parties are held during the holiday seasons.

Several years ago a small library was introduced for the seventh and eighth grade pupils. Since then it has grown and contains some very excellent reading material.

At present the six room building is filled to capacity having six teachers and two hundred and twenty-six pupils.

The board of directors hold their meetings in the directors' room located on the second floor of the building.

Peter Wagner served as janitor for a number of years. Peter John holds this position at present. He is also attendance officer.

Faculty Members

The present members of the school faculty (in 1935) are: Newton Ruch, Principal; Arthur Argall, Kathryn McArdle, Thomas Farrell, Alice Kelly and Catherine Schaeffer.

The present school directors are: Henry Brachman, President; Alex Bubel, Secretary; Jacob Hartz, Jr., Treasurer; George Miller and Anthony Weicicoskie.

When the pupils have finished the elementary grades in the Middleport school, they are admitted to the Blythe Township High School. The borough pays the tuition and provides transportation.

The present bus driver is Earl Wagner from Tumbling Run Valley.

Every day after public school is dismissed, Professor Masinick conducts Greek school in the basement of the Greek Catholic Church for the purpose of instructing the boys and girls of the parish in the fundamentals of their native language.

Some of the names of former teachers are: Staller, Elie, McNeal, Dowd, Sharp, O'Hare, Callery, Breslin, Baer, McHale, Dillon, Foley, Spelying, Klein, Wonderlich, Farrell, Dorning, Rickert, Boran, McDonald and Breslin.

CIVIC AND FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Legion

The American Legion was organized in 1923 and immediately made its presence felt in the community by sponsoring the Boy Scout Troop which has functioned successfully since 1924.

The first meeting of the American Legion was held in 1923 at the office of Claude Stevens who was then Justice of the Peace in Middleport. Some of the organizing members were: John Gallagher, Claude Stevens, Edward Pachilis, Daniel Niadna, Lewis Petrovich, Martin King, Harry Ziegler and Ben George.

The post was named for Bernard Boyle of Kaska, and Louis Krantz of Brockton, who were killed in action.

A large celebration was sponsored by the American Legion on Nov. 12, 1934. Drum corps, organizations and bands were present from different towns of Schuylkill County.

Speeches were given by prominent men. Judge Richard H. Koch, a former resident, was one of the speakers.

In the evening a successful ball was held. The music was furnished by Jack Bogash and his orchestra.

Fireworks were displayed at the ball field. The attraction brought many people from all sections of the county.

Dinners were served at the Polish National Church, the P. O. S. of A. Hall and at the factory. The town was gaily decorated.

The committee for the Armistice Day celebration were as follows:

General Committee: George Rankin, E. A. Connelly and William Barthel.

Publicity Committee: Legionnaires, Claude J. Stevens, Daniel Niadna, Lewis Petrovich, William Kern, John Soptko, John McLaughlin; Citizens, Mrs. L. Ruch, Mrs. C. B. Wynkoop, Mrs. Anna Machamer, Margaret Heblich, Helen Roman, Ruth John, Emily Hartz, Arthur Argall, William Farrell, H. C. Kries, B. J. McArdle, C. B. Wynkoop.

Prize, Parade and Decorating Committee: Legionnaires, Irvin Reed, Andrew Tratzin, Wm. Chiriptko, John Danshaw; Citizens, Henry Brachman, John Jones, Jacob Curvey, Frank Maurer, Michael Shields.

Entertainment Committee: Legionnaires, John Gallagher, Frank Pitcavage, Harry Ziegler, Walter Govern; Citizens, Joe Stupinski, Jacob Hartz, John Chickirda, Alex Songila.

Reception Committee: Legionnaires, Ben George, Fred. Paul, John Schoffstall, Edward Pachilis, John Egan; Citizens, Roy Bassler, Sid Jennings, Irvin Machamer, Frank Maurer, William Argall, Mrs. C. W. Bankes, Mrs. Michael Shields, Mrs. Roy Basler, Mrs. Alex Songila, Mrs. Clayton Bush, Mrs. Wm. Argall.

Boy Scouts

The first Boy Scouts of Middleport were organized March 12, 1924, under the leadership of Martin King and Claude Stevens.

The boys spent many days in camping, went on long hikes with their patrol, studying birds, trees, and rocks as they went along. They learned to swim, learned self-reliance, resourcefulness, courage and developed a healthful mind and body.

Before a boy becomes a scout he must not only have learned the Scout Oath and the Scout Law but must be prepared to live them every day.

Tests of achievement and character had to be met for a boy to pass from one to another of the six scout ranks. Some of these ranks are: Tenderfoot Scout, Second-Class Scout and First-Class Scout.

Roy Angst was a successful Scoutmaster for a few years. The Boy Scouts of Middleport sponsor many public activities; their present leader is Arthur Argall and Assistant Claude Stevens, both of Middleport.

Lodges

The P. O. S. of A. Lodge, organized in 1874, used the Basler Hall as a meeting place. Due to the effort of H. Kries, F. Reber, P. Wagner and others, this lodge grew rapidly, and erected a hall for a meeting place. This hall is also used as the center of social activities in Middleport.

Middleport Lodge, No. 474, I. O. of O. F., was the first secret society organized in Middleport. It was instituted Oct. 1, 1852, with the following officers: E. K. Webber, N. G.; Henry Meyer, V. G.; M. Dormetzer, Sec., and Chas. Bensinger, Treas.

Bands in Middleport

The first band was organized under the leadership of Frank Horn. This band ceased to function after several years.

In 1901, the Middleport Citizens' Band was organized, with Fred Ditchey as teacher and leader. Mr. Ditchey was a very efficient leader, and his band was well known for its excellent music.

The band practiced twice a week in Tom Connelly's Hall, a member of the band, on Monday and Friday evenings.

The following were members of the band: Fred Ditchey, Jr., Arthur Ditchey, Fred John, Jacob John, Harry John, Chas. John, Frank John, Wm. John, Anthony Pachilis, Jacob Curvey, Chas. Kohlmeir, Jr., Thos. Farrell, Geo. Greis, Robt. Boran, Thos. Connelly, John McNamara, Arthur Singley, John Connelly, Peter Breslin, Jim McCabe and John Pachilis.

The third band, known as the Liberty Band, was formed under the leadership of Frank Leymeister, who, shortly after the organization, ceded his leadership to Chas. Paul. Since the disbanding of this group, no band has been organized.

The Fire Company

The members of the Middleport Fire Company have a recreation center called the Middleport Hose House. It is made up of two rooms, and below these rooms, the fire engine and other equipment are kept.

The present officers are: Fire Chief, Jake Alansky; Pres., John Alansky; Sec., Harry Hartz; Treas., Jas. Galat; Janitor, John Tanelle.

Certain officers are elected each month, while others are elected yearly. The company is composed of willing young men who pay for

the up-keep of the building, and are ready to work at any time they are called.

The members pay 15c per month as dues, and a fee of one dollar is charged to join. Each new member who is approved, becomes a full-pledged fireman, and has a right to spend his leisure time at the Hose House. The place is well kept, and possesses a radio, a pool table and comfortable furniture, which is very inviting.

The Citizens Fire Company was organized in 1903, and due to the frugality of its officers, was able to purchase modern equipment in 1929.

World War Records

In 1917, the cry "War Is Declared" was that of every man, woman and child. When the Call to Arms was proclaimed, many of the men of Middleport responded, some of whom were: Claude Stephens, Frank Pitcavage, John Miller, Edw. Bubel, Edw. Pachilis, Dan Niadna, Irvin R. Reed, Ben George, Edw. Connelley, John Gallagher, Ray Lewis, Louis Petrovich, Robert Dohner, Geo. J. Karsnik, Raymond Krevis, Sam Giltner, Chas. Heney, John McLaughlin, Peter McLaughlin, Ivan Simak, Frank Yancosky, Frank Pachilis, Charles H. Kantner, Harry Ziegler, John Astroskie, Joe Welgo, John A. Schoffstall, Martin King, Frank Kotosh, John Pavilak, Chas. T. Reed, Michael Rusinack.

SPORTS

Middleport has been particularly known for her interest in athletics. Some of the sports which were stressed were football, baseball, and pigeon shooting, although baseball was the most important hobby of them all. There are many residents who played in the eighteen hun-

dreds, who still glory in their teams and insist they were the "Best." Some of the old players who brought renown to the community were: James McGinley, an excellent right hand pitcher, who won many games in his day and is now residing in Pottsville; Jack Evans, an outstanding shortstop, who is still living in Middleport. Simon Rice, successful southpaw, who threw a ball with terrific speed. He is also residing in Middleport. Adolph "Fuller" Yenkosky was notable for his catching. Steve Roman and Bud Evans, who were also important players, are now dead. Jack Shields was also a clever right hand pitcher. Chas. Bubel was a talented player, but his job was manager of the team, and he won quite a few pennants for Middleport through his great coaching ability. Another favorite pitcher was Charles Callaway, who is still living in Middleport. There are many young players who are following in the footsteps of the old players. Some of these are: Joe Yusczyk, who plays with Pinegrove; Charles Singley, who intends to play with Hazleton; John Nevada, who plays with Minersville; Newton Ruch, another young player, is now teaching school in Middleport. Victor Pachilis, Freddy Cook and the Stefanek brothers also won laurels for this sport.

The Middleport Reds

The Middleport baseball team called the "Middleport Reds" was organized in 1900 and was managed by the team as a whole.

The first game played was Middleport versus Valley Furnace which resulted in a victory for Middleport by a close score of 3-2.

The battery for Middleport was Edward Bubel, catcher; John Connelly and John McDonald, pitchers. The uniforms were purchased by

the players themselves; they had long sleeves, laced shirts with collars and padded trousers.

In the same year the team held a picnic and with the money raised which amounted to over \$86, they purchased new uniforms.

Later, the team was taken over by Connie Bubel, who made an excellent manager. The team won sixteen out of seventeen games played. The Silver Stars was the team that defeated them. The first catching glove was made from an old European boot by Mrs. Motz.

Baseball players of the South Anthracite League are: Joe Yusczyk, Fred Cook, Charles Singley, Mike Roman, Mike Stefanek, Rudy Stefanek and Newton Ruch.

Here are some of the champions of Middleport in 1909: Champion swimmer, Barney McArdle; champion runner, (long distance), Geo. Edmonds; champion swimmer, (long strokes), Peter Dagus; champion skater, (distance and fancy), Alex Jennings; champion wingshots, Fuller and Frank Yencosky.

Champion ball players, Jack Shields and James McGinley; champion fighters, Frank Lozoski and Ed. Patusky; champion pool shooters, Ed. Bubel and Peter Shapella; champion whistler and yodeler, Chas. John, Sr., and champion cloggers, Harry Ziegler and Mickey Shields.

Football

The first football team was organized about 1928, with Fred Shields, Jos. Yusczyk and Wm. Farrell as the head men.

The first game played marked a victory over Maryd for the ambitious players, with a score of 6-0. For the third game, uniforms were purchased for the boys, who had previously played in overalls.

After finishing a very successful season, the team decided to discontinue football the next season, but the year following found the team entered in a league and ready for action.

The team played for the championship of the county twice, but were defeated both times.

The lineup of the first team was as follows: Bill Farrell, end; Joe Bedrusky, tackle; Joe Sockle, guard; Elmer Miller, center; Harry Hunsinger guard; Cyril Boran, tackle; Newton Rush, end; Fred Shields, quarter-back; Jos. Yusczyk, half-back; John Roman, half-back; Rudy Stefanek, full-back. The coach was Mandy Whetstone, former Tam-aqua High School star.

The football season of 1934 found a Class C team composed of excellent home talent and a very efficient manager, Fred Shields.

The gridiron flashes were: "Wild Bill Marcolla" and his brother, Jos., who has now joined the Army; Jos. "Bullo" Wensis, Edw. and Chas. Petrush, John and Oliver Reed, Frank "Lanky" Weiss, Wm. Sadusky, Jos. "Weeds" Shields, Peter "Sam" Chickirda, Jacob Yavulla, Edw. Patusky, Chas. "Hambone" Paul, John Petrush, Anthony "Bucko" Sadusky, Thos. Farrell and Jos. Orloff, the great drop-kicker. The rivals were New Phila., Palo Alto, Minersville and Pottsville.

Looking back a few years, we find that Jack Shields, from Kaska, who is the present coach of Blythe Twp. team, coached the Middleport team. We also find the names of Whetstone, Miller, Ruch and Reed.

Basketball

The fall of 1931 found the Middleport boys trying to introduce a new sport. Basketball had caught the eye of the younger boys of the

sport circle, and a team was organized under the direction of Newton Ruch, the principal of the Middleport school. The team played some of the best known squads in the county: St. Clair, Frackville, and Port Carbon.

Some of the players were: Joe Yusczyk, Newton Ruch, Chester Walacavage, Dave Shields and Barney Roman, former high school stars.

The Middleport Boy Scouts organized a basketball team in the year 1932, which was coached by Roy Angst, then principal of the Middleport school. The team was very successful, but due to many handicaps, they were unable to continue their rapid progress. Some of the players were:

Jack Reed, Chas. Singley, Oliver Reed, Marl Basler, Joe Roman and Robt. Reed.

Boxing Became Popular

In 1924, the Middleport boys turned to a new sport, when Frank (Bio) Lozoskie, a young man of the town, became interested and entered the squared circle. A more willing scrapper could not be found. He had made his father's garage into training quarters, where he practiced long hours every day. He aroused the ambition of many young boys who had intentions of becoming fighters. The boys would box with him and encourage him. Some of these boys became boxers of ability; a few of them were: Dick Jones, Rudy Stefanek, Joe Sadusky and John Lozoskie. Frank taught most of them the rudiments of the sport. He was managed by Jim Bonner, who had been a great middleweight contender for many years.

Frank had fought his first few battles, and did not meet his match. He became the talk of the county,

meeting all comers, without many defeats. He reached a height few fighters of the town had ever reached. He was matched with Andy Allen, the leading contender for the lightweight championship. Frank was defeated by Mr. Allen by a close decision.

After a few months elapsed Frank gave up his ring career; he is now employed at the Alliance Colliery at Kaska. He also played football, basketball and was a great wingshot.

Boxing was then abandoned until 1933, when a group of young men signed to fight in the amateur bouts. Some of the boxers were: Vincent Sadusky, John Tihansky, Joe Wens'us, Jack Reed, Jos. Stefanek, John Mazar, John Soltysiak, and Edw. "Tucker" Patdusky, who later became the well known Middleport middleweight sensation.

PROMINENT RESIDENTS

A list of the old residents and their occupations is interesting.

The Phillips family were owners of the Phillips coal mine situated in the east end of town.

The Highlanders and Morganroths managed company stores for Mr. Gittleman (operator of the Coal Hill Mine).

George Medler was a brother-in-law of Oliver P. Bechtel, who ran the saddle shop. Charles Bensinger was the owner and operator of the tailor shop. Eli T. Miller operated a general store. Jas. McGarry was the proprietor of a tavern. John Kleindinst, Peter Keifaber and Earl Linkhorst were three town cobblers.

William Hermann was general manager of the P. & R. Coal and Iron Co. Frederick John was the owner of a slaughter house and

butcher shop. Rev. Boyer was an early pastor of the Lutheran Church. Thomas Jennings was the first constable of Middleport; John Stephens, an undertaker and cabinet maker. William Miller and David Ritter conducted general stores. Fred Ditchey, Hoffman, Rowbottom, Adam Deir, George McGinley operated Hotels. Seidel Stein was the operator of the Birch Foundry.

Some of the citizens were: Chas. Bopps, Dunstans, McArdles, Halahans, Hartzs, Mohrmans, Shafts, Barnhardts, Kleckners, Stechers, Wenhaures, Greenawatts, Minors, Heblichs, Quinns, Curveys, Eustaces, Spearces, Bichlers, Neubaures, Holtzmans, Dillons, Walls, Murphys, Bertrams, Jones, Stephens, Swains, Machamers, Matthews, Portners, Greens, Greenwalts, Coogans, Linchorst, Lorenzs, Allabachs, Johns, Majors, Welshs, Ritters, Veiths, Winlacks, Hineys, Kramers, Horns, Basslers, Kochs, Paisleys, Lawlors, Ditchays, Dr. Weaver, Pohlman, Porters, Shucks.

Among the young men who have made a mark in the various professions in the past, we find: Judge R. H. Koch, Judge Oliver P. Bechtel, Francis W. Bechtel, John Whalen, Nicholas Heblich, in the legal profession, William Herrmann, Jr., druggist, Fathers James and Edward Holahan, Jacob Schaff and Rev. Linn Bowman.

The first medical servant of the town was Dr. Steinburg. Since then Dr. Heidenrich, Dr. Bankes, Dr. Stein and Dr. Perloski have served the town.

The first postmaster of Middleport was Charles Bensinger in 1870. Messrs. Winlack, Bertz, Stephens, Farrell, Boran, and Miss Alice Holman have served as postmasters since the establishment of the post

office. Thos. Farrell, Jr., is the present postmaster.

Richard Henry Koch

Richard Henry Koch was born at Middleport on April 2, 1852. He was educated in the public schools of the locality where he lived, and prepared for his enrollment as a student at the State Normal School at Kutztown in the spring of 1868. He graduated in 1871 with the first honors of the class. He taught school for two years in Schuylkill and Lehigh Counties and then returned to his Alma Mater, where he taught for six years. He resigned his chair in June 1879 to take up the study of law, under the tutorship of Francis W. Hughes of Pottsville. Mr. Koch was admitted to practice in the county courts on May 2, 1881, and was later admitted to practice in the State Supreme Court and in 1890 to the Supreme Court of the United States. He was chairman of the Republican county committee in 1883 and 1884. Mr. Koch served three years as deputy district attorney and in the fall of 1889, he was elected district attorney. He was the nominee of his party for the office of judge of the Common Pleas Court in 1892 but was defeated. In 1895, the Republican county convention of Berks County unanimously nominated him for judge of the Common Pleas in that county. He was appointed judge by Governor Hastings, on the death of Judge Weidman in Sept. 1897. In 1907, he was nominated for judge by his party.

On January 1, 1912, the oath of office was administered to Koch, and he retired in January 1932.

Judge Koch was married Sept. 30, 1884, to Annie S. Phillips. Judge and Mrs. Koch had four children: Roscoe Richard, who is practicing law in Phila.; Helen Elizabeth, the

wife of Dr. Joel T. Boone, surgeon in the United States Navy; Marshall McKinley, mechanical engineer at Denver, Colorado; and Mrs. Mary Marjorie Hood, Pottsville.

Judge Koch's activities have not been confined to law. From 1896 to 1897 he was president and general manager of the company operating the local trolley road. For several years he was president of the Rapid Transit Co. and of the Lookout Mountain Plane at Chattanooga, Tennessee; he was connected with the Cumberland and Westernport Electric Railway Co.; the Wilmington and New Castle trolley line. He financed the Shamokin Extension Electric Railway of which he is president and he was also president of the Danville and Bloomsburg Street Railway Co. until its acquisition by another company.

Francis W. Bechtel

Francis W. Bechtel, although born in Northumberland County, April 11, 1837, son of John and Eliza (Beeber) Bechtel, yet he is a product of Middleport, for his father moved to town and Francis received his elementary education in the schools of Middleport, attended the post office of his father as clerk, and later taught in the town schools. Subsequently he was principal of the schools at Sch. Haven. He served four years as clerk to the county commissioners. In 1862, he registered as a law student in the office of Franklin B. Gowen, and completed his studies in the office of John W. Ryon, and was admitted to practice before the bar of Schuylkill County, May 18, 1868. In 1870, he was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. He died March 14, 1906. David W. Bechtel, of Pottsville, was a grandson of Francis W. Bechtel.

Oliver P. Bechtel

John Bechtel, father of Judge Oliver P. Bechtel, was born near Doylestown, Bucks County, Oct. 6, 1798. He lived for some time in Northumberland County and in 1847 he removed to Pottsville and thence to Middleport in 1851, where he was postmaster during the administrations of Presidents Pierce, Buchanan and Johnson. Oliver P. was nine years old when his father moved to Middleport, having been born June 31, 1842. His common school education was, therefore, received in the schools at Middleport. At the age of eighteen he began to teach school in Wayne Township, Schuylkill County at \$25 a month for a four month term. He also taught in West Brunswick Township. To prepare himself more fully for teaching, he attended the Allentown Seminary, and in September 1861, he became a teacher in the Arcadian Institute at Orwigsburg, he himself reciting in several branches to the principal. In the fall of 1862 he took charge of one of the leading schools in Mahanoy City, and remained in charge until April, 1864. On March 20, 1865, he became a student in the law office of Hughes and Dewees, of Pottsville having three years previously been registered as a student in the office of his brother, James B. Bechtel, of Reading, April 12, 1866, he passed an examination for admission to the bar; and on May 10, following was formally admitted to practice. In 1873, he became the Democratic nominee for the office of State Senator from the tenth district and was elected over three opposing candidates. He served for three years and was offered a re-nomination, which he declined on account of pressure of his accumulating professional duties.

In August, 1877, the Democratic convention gave him the unanimous

nomination for the office of Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. He was elected and assumed his duties in January, 1878.

William Basler

William Basler who was a prominent merchant of Middleport was born in Bremen, Germany, March 7, 1842. He came to America at the age of four years with his parents and settled in Tumbling Run Valley on the farm now occupied by Dan Wagner. At the age of eight he picked slate at the Milford Colliery. Later he married Mary Catherine Miller and in 1866 he moved to Middleport and opened a general store.

Mr. Basler was always active in public affairs being postmaster for several terms and tax collector also. He owned much property in Middleport. He visited his native country in 1900 and had the unusual experience of sleeping in the same house in which he was born. He died in 1906 and was survived by his wife and 12 children (six daughters and six sons). His widow died in 1920. The general store is now being managed by his two sons, Nelson and Roy Basler.

James Farrell

James Farrell was a native of County Carlow, Ireland, and in 1832 landed at Quebec, Canada. From there he went to Steuben, N. Y. and in 1844 settled at Pottsville, where he did not remain long, removing from there to Middleport, where he made his permanent home. By trade he was a butcher, but he did not follow that calling long, working at the mines after locating at Middleport. He died there in 1878, at the age of seventy years. His children were: Matthew, James T., Andrew, John and William. Of these, James T. Farrell became a member of Company E of the famous 48th Regiment of Pennsylvania and was wounded in the sec-

ond battle of Bull Run, dying in the Eighth Street Hospital, at Washington, D. C., Sept. 25, 1862. He is buried at Port Carbon.

Thomas A. Farrell

Thomas A. Farrell was born Nov. 28, 1876 at Middleport and attended the public schools of Blythe Township. When a boy he began picking slate at the Big Vein breaker, where he was employed for 26 years in all, during sixteen years of that time having charge of the lamps. In 1914, he made a change, taking a position at the Maryd Colliery.

Mr. Farrell had always maintained an interest in local affairs, worked with the Democratic party, in whose council he served as committeeman. In 1911, he was elected justice of the peace, and also served two terms as postmaster. He died Dec. 16, 1933.

Henry C. Kries

Henry C. Kreis, of Middleport, is a man of solid standing in business circles and held in the highest respect for his personal qualities. He is a native of Schuylkill County, born Jan. 23, 1863, at Brockton, son of Henry C. and Charlotte (Schlimmer) Kreis.

Henry C. Kreis acquired his education in the public schools of Middleport. His early years were spent in mine work. He began picking slate at the Palmer Vein Colliery, and later he received the appointment of health officer of district 713, which includes Blythe Twp. After filling this position capably for five years he determined to start in business on his own account, and in 1910 he opened the store at Middleport which he has since carried on.

Aside from business Mr. Kreis has been interested in a number of local enterprises. He served as

president of the Citizens' Fire Company, secretary of the P. O. S. of A. camp, secretary of the Odd Fellows lodge, and also held membership in the B. P. O. Elks at Tamaqua. Politically he has been associated with the Republican party and for six years he held the office of tax collector. At present he is treasurer of the Borough. He married Emma Kercher.

Frederick John

Frederick John was born in Brockton, July 26, 1867. When he was six years old he moved to Middleport where he was well liked and proved to be a very successful business man throughout his life.

In 1897 he bought a "washery" which was located between Kaska and Middleport. Here he was superintendent with his brother, Harry John, as foreman; in 1902 he sold the washery but took stock in it later, and was part owner until it was shut down in 1907.

He was in the meat business about twenty-five years at intervals. In 1912, owned a grocery store and in 1914 he entered the ice business which since has been taken over by Stanley Lauk.

In his younger years, he took part in many public activities and was a member of the Citizens' Band. He married Sally Linkhorst, who is now deceased.

Earl D. Baum

Earl D. Baum, (deceased) had the only manufacturing business conducted in this borough, and it gave employment to a considerable number of people.

Mr. Baum was a son of Wm. Baum who at present resides at Middleport. Wm. Baum was engaged in farming during his early life, but for many years had been a mine worker. He married Agnes

Shirey. To Mr. and Mrs. Baum have been born five children: Vernie, Earl D., Agnes, Charles and Bertram.

Earl D. Baum was born Oct. 1, 1895 at Hegins, where he obtained his education in the public schools. From boyhood he had been employed in the shirt manufacturing business, gaining his first experience in that line in the shirt factory at Hegins, where he remained for three years. Then he went to Pillow, Pa., there establishing a shirt factory for Dochey and Reipe, with whom he continued for a few years, changing to the employ of Fox and Moore, at Pine Grove, for a short period, until ready to start on his own account. He chose Middleport as a desirable location, and obtaining quarters in the P. O. S. of A. building opened his factory for making men's shirts Sept. 26, 1915. He employed between 75 to 100 people.

John Pfeiffer

John Pfeiffer (deceased), was born in Germany, Oct. 26, 1864, son of Daniel Pfeiffer, also a native of that country. He brought his family to America in 1882 and settled at Middleport. He was engaged for a time in coal washing, at Brockton. Then he followed farming until his retirement. His death occurred at Middleport, where his wife, Elizabeth (Pabst) also passed away, and they are both buried here. They had the following children: Jacob, John, Daniel, Frederick, Henry, Lewis, Charles, Lena (who married George W. Miller).

At present Mrs. Miller, Jacob and Daniel, a barber, reside in Middleport.

John Pfeiffer, Jr. (deceased), received his education in the Fatherland; he was eighteen years old when he accompanied the family

to America. He had learned the trade of a stone cutter, and after his arrival in Schuylkill Co. was employed for ten years at the mines and on the railroad. He was one of the organizers of the Consolidated Electric Co. which supplied light to New Phila., Middleport, Blythe Twp. and also to Schuylkill Twp.

Mr. Pfeiffer married Emma Ida Miller, daughter of Thomas Miller, and they had three children, Ella, Charles and John.

Dr. Chas. W. Bankes

Among the professional men of Middleport we have two doctors, Dr. Chas. W. Bankes and Dr. Leon Perloski.

Dr. Bankes has been practicing medicine fifty-three years. He located in Middleport, Sept. 5, 1881, during which time he has become a well known and efficient doctor throughout the county. He is also a very prominent business man being President of the Silver Creek State Bank of New Phila. He was born at Drehersville, Pa., Oct. 4, 1856. His education was received at Millersville State Normal School. After graduating he taught school at Reynolds for three years. Being interested in the medical profession he went to the Medical College of Assistant Surgeons at Baltimore, Md., and graduated in 1881. Since that time, he has accomplished much for the medical profession.

Dr. Leon Perloski

Dr. Leon Perloski came to Middleport, Aug. 1, 1934. Although here for only a short time, he is proving to be very successful. Dr. Perloski was born at Glen Lyon, Pa., March 30, 1904. He resided in Glen Lyon for two years and then lost his father, who was a blacksmith. After his father's death, his mother made her home in Nanticoke, Pa. He re-

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ceived his primary education in the public schools of Nanticoke. After leaving school, he worked for a while in a coal mine. Three years later he entered the Nanticoke High School and after graduating, he went to the University of Pittsburgh where he received his B. S. degree. He completed his education at the University of St. Louis where he received his medical degree. He spent his internship at the Mercy Hospital at Wilkes Barre, from July 1, 1933 to July 1, 1934 and

also spent one year at the Ashland State Hospital at Fountain Springs.

A Sad Incident

A tragedy in the history of the town was the death of a mother and four children when the Harvilla home caught fire on Jan. 23, 1924. The victims of the fire were Mrs. Andrew Harvilla, aged 31, Eleanor Harvilla, aged 10, Julia, 6, Anna, 4, and Susan, 2. The mother tried to save the children and was suffocated with them, in the burning building.



